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ARAB TIMES

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NO. 7186 WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 1988 RAJAB 14, 1408 AH 18 PAGES 150 FILS

27 killed, 100 injured Tehran reels under Iraqi missile attack

NICOSIA, March 1, (Agencies): Iraq said today it fired 17 missiles into Tehran in the first long-range rocket barrage to hit the Iranian capital. Iran said 27 civilians were killed and 100 injured since Monday.

The onslaught overnight and during the day was the first evidence to back Iraq's claim last summer that it has missiles to hit Tehran, 290 miles (465 kilometres) from the Iraqi border.

A military spokesman later said an Iranian missile hit Baghdad tonight, killing or wounding a number of people.

He said the Iranian projectile hit at 9:11 pm (1811 GMT), around the same time that Iraq launched two missiles at the Iranian capital.

"Iraq possesses gigantic strategic capabilities to destroy Tehran, the nest of evil," Iraqi Information Minister Latif Nsayef Jassim was quoted as saying by the Iraqi News Agency.

The agency said President Saddam Hussein named the homemade missile Al Hussein, after a saint of the Shiite Muslims.

It said the rocket has a range of 400 miles (650 kilometres).

Iraq said it fired 17 missiles between yesterday evening and mid-afternoon today in retaliation for two pre-dawn Iranian missile strikes yesterday on Baghdad in which "many civilians" were killed or wounded.

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A Palestinian with his head bandaged and blood running down his face explains how he was clubbed by Israeli soldiers. (Reuters wirephoto)

Intensify boycott, Palestinians asked

OCUPIED Jerusalem, March 1, (Agencies): Israeli soldiers shot and wounded an Arab protester today when Iraqi ground-to-ground missiles landed only yards (metres) from a hotel where he was staying, Turkish newsmen accompanying him said.

Ozal flew out of Tehran today during a two-hour halt in the missile attacks ordered by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein at the Turkish Premier's request.

The Premier said the missile attacks came as he was in the Iranian capital attempting to bring about peace between Iran and Iraq.

The agency also reported clashes between protesters and troops in Nablus, the Tulkarem refugee camp and the village of Habbia in the occupied West Bank.

Leaders of the right-wing Likud and left-leaning Labour Party today began discussions on advancing the date of new elections currently scheduled for this fall, Israeli Radio reported.

The two parties share power in Israel's coalition government but are deadlocked over what the next step should be in the peace process.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, said today Israel must withdraw from Palestinian cities in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"We have to decide which price we want to pay for peace... in another generation, the Arab population will be larger in size, deeper in revolt and filled with even more hatred," he said.

Reports must be factual, editors told

KUWAIT'S Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad, said today that he does not want Kuwait's press to become, intentionally or unintentionally, "containers of poison for some regional or international parties."

Sheikh Jaber Mubarak was speaking to editors-in-chief of local newspapers at a meeting yesterday.

Decision

He said a decision to close down a newspaper, even if it's for one day, would be a most difficult one for him to take.

But, he stressed that he would not hesitate to close a newspaper if he felt for a moment there was something against the interest of the country or its relations, or against the safety of citizens.

He said: "Duty is above a man's likes or dislikes, and the interests of the country and people always above all considerations. We want a press that unites and protects the nation."

He added he is frankly looking forward to the day when there will be no need for censors and each newspaper will be self-censored.

Remove

He said: "Any criticism of any government or private sides must be constructive and based on facts and not on mere rumours."

"It will be very difficult to remove the effects of news based on rumours or intended at harming some sides."

He pointed out that sensationalism in journalism is the last thing he wanted.

He reminded the whole world was passing through complicated political and fluctuating economic situations, and the Arab world was influenced by these developments, particularly the Gulf area, which was also being influenced by the results of

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عراق ایران میں خوفناک
شری جنگ
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ایوشیات

WEATHER

TEMPERATURE will be around normal with light variable wind and some clouds will appear.

State of sea: moderate

High water: 10.30 am, 11.00 pm

Low water: 6.00 am, 6.30 pm

Sunrise: 6.13 am

Sunset: 6.48 pm

Maximum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 29°C 84°F

Ahmad: 27°C 81°F

Falaka: 27°C 81°F

Maximum temperature expected: Kuwait: 29°C 84°F

Ahmad: 27°C 81°F

Falaka: 27°C 81°F

Minimum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 14°C 57°F

Ahmad: 17°C 63°F

Falaka: 17°C 63°F

Minimum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 63 per cent

Ahmad: 52 per cent

Falaka: 70 per cent

Maximum humidity expected: Kuwait: 85 per cent

Ahmad: 80 per cent

Falaka: 85 per cent

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Shultz mission inconclusive

LONDON, March 1, (Reuters): US Secretary of State George Shultz, undismayed by inconclusive talks in the Middle East, conferred with Jordan's King Hussein in London today on a US initiative to end unrest in Israeli-held Palestinian lands.

Shultz, who flew from Tel Aviv to see the King and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in separate meetings, was due later to travel to Brussels to brief President Reagan on his six-day tour of Middle Eastern capitals.

Before leaving Tel Aviv, Shultz told reporters: "If I had to describe the situation, I would say that nobody has signed up for our proposals but everybody wants us to keep working."

Violence

The initiative, prompted by widespread violence since December in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, develops earlier US ideas for interim Palestinian self-rule to be followed by Arab-Israeli talks on a comprehensive settlement.

Shultz told reporters aboard his plane from Tel Aviv to London that he had not put forward a formal plan during his talks with Israeli, Egyptian, Jordanian and Syrian leaders and did not intend to do so at his meeting with King Hussein.

"There comes a time very soon in the process that the US view should be stated in a formal way," Shultz said, adding that the time for that had not yet arrived.

"It does seem as though people's minds are more open, their attitudes are more open, and therefore it is more possible to get somewhere," Shultz said.

Entourage

US officials in Shultz's entourage said he would decide whether to return to the Middle East after he had reviewed his efforts with Reagan tomorrow in Brussels, where NATO heads of government are gathering for an arms control summit.

A major sticking point during Shultz's mission has been the insistence of Arab countries that an international conference sponsored by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council is the only reliable road to a comprehensive peace.

The new US initiative envisages an international meeting without the powers to impose a settlement that the Arab states want. But Israel's right-wing Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir is reluctant to embrace even this proposal.

Shamir is split from Foreign Minister Shimon Peres both on the concept of an international conference and on the fundamental question of whether Israel should trade some of the occupied territories for peace with its Arab neighbours.

Process

King Hussein, who was out of Jordan when Shultz visited Amman on Saturday and on Monday, has a key role in the peace process not only because Israel seized the West Bank from Jordan but because a majority of Jordan's people are Palestinians.

Jordan says it is prepared to attend an international peace conference either in association with a delegation of the PLO or with the two parties going independently.

Unlike the Arab states, the United States does not recognise the PLO as the legitimate representative of Palestinians. Israel rejects any contacts with the PLO on the grounds that it is a terrorist organisation.

Saudis rule out ties with Soviets

RIYADH, March 1, (Xinhua): Saudi Arabia has ruled out the possibility of restoring diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union in the near future, the official Saudi News Agency quoted a Saudi authoritative source as saying.

"There is only trade links in the private-sector between Saudi Arabia with both the Soviet Union and China," the source said.

Saudi Arabia pursues "a policy that emanates from its own interests and convictions," he added.

There were speculations that Saudi Arabia may restore diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union after Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal visited Moscow recently.

It was the first high-level Saudi visit in several decades.

Some Western diplomats speculated that the exchange of visits at official levels between the two countries might be a step towards the resumption of diplomatic relations.

Saudi Prince

KATHMANDU, March 1, (UPI): Saudi Prince Khalid Bin Sultan Abdul Aziz arrived today for a six-day official trip to the kingdom of Nepal.

Don't close PLO office, allies urge America

UNITED NATIONS, March 1, (Agencies): America's allies are joining the call for the United States not to violate its treaty with the United Nations by closing the observer mission of the PLO.

The allies were among more than a score of nations or groups who told a special General Assembly session yesterday that the move threatens the world body's independence.

Not a single speaker defended the United States.

Representatives of the 12-nation European Economic Community, the Nordic countries and of Canada, Australia and New Zealand were among the critics.

"At stake at this point are the effective functioning of the United Nations and the right of the organisation to hear the views of those invited to attend as observers," Canadian Ambassador Stephen Lewis said.

Alexander Count York of West Germany, speaking for the EEC, urged the United States to submit the dispute to binding arbitration, as called for in the 1947 treaty under which the United States hosts the world body.

The United States has rejected arbitration.

Bomb kills one

PESHAWAR, Pakistan, March 1, (Reuters): A time-bomb killed one man and wounded three others today at a Peshawar guest house used by legislators, doctors said.

No legislators were in the drawing room of the circuit house in the provincial capital when the bomb went off under a sofa, police said.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the bombing, the latest in a series that has killed 250 people since the beginning of 1987.

Reagan leaves for Nato summit

WASHINGTON, March 1, (Reuters): President Reagan flew to a Nato summit in Brussels today urging the Western alliance to stick to its policy of winning permanent peace with the Soviet Union from a position of armed strength.

As he left the White House for a two-day summit of the 16 alliance leaders, the first in six years, Reagan said the unity of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (Nato) had been the foundation of 40 years of peace in Europe.

"We seek nothing less than permanent peace with freedom in Europe and the North Atlantic. This bold objective can be attained, but we must have the courage to follow the course we have set for ourselves," Reagan said.

"Arms reduce only succeed if it is backed up by strong defence."

Jahra blast toll rises to 4

TWO more people have died from injuries sustained when a shell accidentally exploded at a scrap metal yard in Jahra on Monday.

Two people were killed immediately and three wounded on Monday as a discarded Defence Ministry vehicle was being crushed for scrap metal when the shell, which was in the vehicle, exploded.

Firemen and Civil Defence officers cordoned off the area where they found 30 more live shells.

Investigations revealed that a dealer, who was one of the four killed, had purchased what he believed were dead shells for scrap metal use.

An eye-witness said two explosions occurred on Monday, one at about 10 am and the other after half an hour.

4 Libyan MiGs land in Egypt

CAIRO, March 1, (Reuters): Four Libyan Air Force MiG-23 jets landed in Egypt today, the national Middle East News Agency (Mena) reported.

The agency said the planes were flown by Libyan pilots, but it did not say where they landed and gave no other details.

It was the fourth such incident in the past year, but it was not immediately clear whether the pilots were defecting.

Some Libyan servicemen who landed in Egypt last year were granted political asylum.

Egypt and Libya are neighbours and political rivals who fought a brief border war in 1977.

Afghan leaders

GENEVA, March 1, (Reuters): The leaders of Afghanistan would be willing to step down for the sake of peace, Afghan Foreign Minister Abdul Wakil said today on the eve of UN-sponsored Afghan peace talks.

"The leadership in Afghanistan, in order to bring about peace in the country, not only consent to sacrifice their posts but also to sacrifice their blood, their lives," Wakil told a news conference. (See Page 2)

ARAB TIMES
Grand Bingo

Mrs Ghazala Ehsanul Haq has won the KD25 Top Line prize. Game No. 63 continues for the Four Corners and three Full Houses.

INTERNATIONAL

Rebel leaders have prime right to join coalition: Najib

MOSCOW, March 1, (Reuters): Afghan President Najib said today Muslim rebel field commanders fighting his government inside the country had a prime right to join a coalition to bring peace to Afghanistan.

"It is precisely these people who have never left the country who have the prime right to take part in a coalition government," he told a mass rally in Kabul, according to the Soviet news agency Tass.

"But the opposition leaders in Pakistan refuse to take the commanders of armed groups into account," Najib told the rally, called on the eve of crucial UN-sponsored peace talks opening in Geneva tomorrow.

Pakistan, which is involved in the indirect talks with the Kabul administration, has said it would not sign accords clearing the way for a Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan unless an interim government was formed first in Kabul.

Leaders of seven Afghan rebel groupings based in the Pakistani city of Peshawar have rejected the possibility of any discussions with Najib representatives, saying they will not cooperate with "communists."

Ready
Afghanistan's Ambassador to Moscow said today the Kabul government was ready for talks "anywhere at any time" with rebel leaders on the formation of a new coalition to run the country.

The envoy told a news conference such talks could include discussion of assigning the post of prime minister to a figure from the opposition to Najib's Soviet-backed administration.

Low-fat meat

SYDNEY, March 1, (Reuters): An Australian butcher-inventor today served up a platter of virtually fat-free, reduced-cholesterol meat with which he hopes to do battle against chicken and fish in the health wars.

"Our meat has fewer calories than steamed fish," Dallas Chapman, a butcher who left school at 15, said in publicly unveiling his discovery.

Chapman likened the process, which he said removed 96 per cent of the fat and at least 30 per cent of the cholesterol from meat, to butter being centrifugally separated from milk.

"We are ready to talk to the opposition at any place and at any time on solving the problems in our country. But these talks must be separate from the Geneva negotiations," the Ambassador, Mohammadullah Subhani Safi, said.

The Soviet Communist Party newspaper Pravda urged Islamabad today to drop its demands—loudly echoed by the so-called "Peshawar Seven" opposition groups—for an immediate interim government.

"If the Pakistani leaders are really interested in a solution of the Afghan problem, then they have the chance by signing the Geneva documents to prove that not just by words but by deeds," Pravda said.

Determined

Many diplomatic analysts say Moscow seems determined now to withdraw some 115,000 forces over the next year.

Moscow and Kabul have said the formation of a coalition can only be discussed among Afghans themselves and not at Geneva.

But both Soviet and Afghan officials, in assertions backed by independent reports from Afghanistan, say rebel field commanders are more ready for negotiations on a genuine ceasefire and formation of an interim administration.

In his speech Najib said the Afghan people expected a peace to emerge from the Geneva negotiations, which have been under way for some six years.

"We are bending every effort to solve the problem around and inside our country by peaceful means," he said.

Freed Italians

BERGAMO, Italy, March 1, (AP): Three Italian engineers released Saturday by their pro-Iranian Kurdish kidnappers arrived home today after five months of captivity.

Former hostages Sergio Cominetti, Roberto Diotallevi and Giuseppe Carrara boarded a commercial plane in Iraq yesterday evening and flew to Arman, where they were met by a chartered Italian government plane. They arrived shortly before 6:00 am (0500 GMT) at the northern Italian airport of Orio al Serio outside Bergamo.

Senegal opposition leader detained

DAKAR, March 1, (UPI): Socialist President Abdou Diouf had his arch-rival Abdoulaye Wade of the Senegalese Democratic Party arrested as part of a crackdown clamped after violent protests in the capital over alleged electoral fraud, political sources said today.

Police arrested Wade at his Dakar headquarters last night after he demanded the President's resignation and the holding of new elections, the sources said.

The government declared a state of emergency in and around Dakar yesterday and imposed a dawn to dusk curfew.

Pelted

In an interview with French television, Diouf said he could not allow the opposition to "use children" to destabilise the nation.

Opposition allegations that Sunday's elections were rigged sent tens of thousands of students storming into the streets of Dakar yesterday. The students set up barricades around a university and Wade's SDP headquarters, pelted troops with stones and set several buses on fire. Police forced open the university gates and fired tear gas into dormitories.

Authorities deployed tanks around Diouf's colonial-style palace and riot police fired tear gas to disperse the demonstrators in the west African capital.

Declared

At 1 pm, state-run Senegal radio declared a state of emergency, banning all street demonstrations and rallies and closing schools and the university until further notice.

An unknown number of people were arrested, including at least one reporter from the SDP newspaper, foreign photographers, and Wade's chief aide, Bouacar Sall. There were no immediate reports on the number of injuries during the rioting.

Partial results from Sunday's polling gave Diouf 80 per cent of the vote from 21 communes or provinces. But the government withheld results from more than 50 per cent of electoral areas, including Dakar and the politically important city of Thiès, 45 miles (72 km) east of the west African capital.

Suharto rules out restoration of ties with China

JAKARTA, March 1, (Reuters): President Suharto said today he wanted a pledge from China not to help Indonesia's communists before he would agree to the normalisation of diplomatic relations with Beijing.

In a wide-ranging speech assessing his past five years as leader of Indonesia, he also called for the withdrawal of foreign forces from Afghanistan and Kampuchea, backed the creation of a Palestinian homeland and urged an end to the Iran-Iraq war.

Suharto, who is expected to be reappointed for a further five-year term which will keep him in power until 1993, told a special session of Parliament that the 1986 crash in world oil prices and the later fall of the US dollar had forced Indonesia to take some harsh economic adjustment measures.

Cooperation

He said the measures helped Indonesia to weather the storm of slumping oil revenues and violent exchange rate fluctuations, and he ruled out any rescheduling of the country's \$45 billion overseas debt.

Underlining Indonesia's increasing cooperation with the West, he said relations with the Soviet Bloc countries had also

strengthened over the past five years, and direct trade with China had been reopened.

The 66-year-old President, who rose to power after crushing a communist coup attempt in 1965, stressed that resumption of diplomatic relations with China depended on a pledge of non-interference.

"Especially regarding the relationship with the People's Republic of China, I should emphasise once again that we still link the normalisation of the diplomatic relations with the confirmation of the stand of the PRC not to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries—particularly Indonesia—by helping remnants of communist elements in the countries concerned," Suharto told a special session of Parliament.

Links

Jakarta broke relations with Beijing in 1967, accusing it of involvement in the attempted coup. It reopened direct trade links in 1986 and Suharto was himself targeted by China and Eastern Europe as areas offering increased export opportunities.

Indonesia's military and intelligence chiefs said last month at Jakarta was in no hurry to restore diplomatic ties with China. "China has never given



President Suharto gives assessment of his past five years in power to opening plenary session of the People's Consultative Assembly. (Reuters wirephoto)

any hint that it will meet Indonesia's condition," said General Yuga Sugama, head of the

intelligence agency. China has denied involvement in the coup attempt.

Ex-president wants to spend his last days in homeland

Marcos 'seriously ill with cancer'

MANILA, March 1, (Reuters): A Manila newspaper said today former Philippine leader Ferdinand Marcos was seriously ill with cancer and wanted to return to die in his homeland.

The tabloid People's Tonight quoted President Corason Aquino's uncle Francisco Sumulong—one of two emissaries sent to talk to the exiled president—as saying Marcos told him his doctors suspected he had a cancerous growth and he wanted to spend his "last days" in his homeland.

Conditions

Sumulong, the majority leader in the lower house, said Marcos told him he had undergone two major operations, one close to the lung and another on the leg. "Sumulong was not immediately available for comment."

Earlier in the day Aquino said Marcos could not hope to be allowed back into the Philippines until he returned "what he stole from our country."

Aquino laid down the conditions for Marcos's return: he must first return to Hawaii that he was ready to negotiate with Manila on conditions for his return.

Support

Sumulong and Congressman Egnidio Tanjato, another Aquino relative, met Marcos in January. Tanjato said yesterday Aquino was studying Marcos's appeal to return to help fight communist rebels.

"I told (the emissaries) just to listen to what he has to say. But the first thing he has to do is to return what he stole from our country," Aquino told reporters.

In a separate development, a visiting US official said today that the United States will leave "no stone unturned" in its effort to support the government of President Aquino.

The pledge followed a warning by Armed Forces Chief General Renato de Villa that communist rebels could seize power in 1990 if the government did not act quickly to improve conditions for the poor.

Defence Under-Secretary Richard Armitage told reporters the US Defence Department was pushing for more military aid to the Philippines despite military cut-backs in Washington.

Philippine officials said that in his talks with Aquino, Armitage sought to allay fears the Pentagon doubted her ability to control a communist insurgency.

Sri Lankan bank official shot and wounded

COLOMBO, March 1, (Reuters): The chairman of Sri Lanka's state-run People's Bank was shot and wounded today by unidentified gunmen, bank sources said.

They said STG Fernando was leaving his home at Kollupitiya, in Colombo's commercial and residential area, when he was shot.

Fernando was rushed to Colombo's general hospital with head and neck injuries.

Police said Fernando was being driven to his office after lunch when a gang of men opened fire.

There has been a spate of shootings of influential people in the past six months blamed on an outlawed Marxist group, the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP, or People's Liberation Front).

Signed

The JVP is opposed to a peace pact signed by President Junius Jayewardene and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi last July aimed at ending a four-year-old Tamil rebellion.

The police said they were unable to say who was responsible for attacking Fernando.

Hundreds of workers in state-owned banks have been carrying out a "work-to-rule" campaign since last week demanding higher wages.

Elections Commission officials said today that Jayewardene had postponed provincial council elections in five provinces because of poor security.

Designed

Only four out of the island's nine provinces will now hold elections to new provincial councils designed to play a key part in ending the five-year-old Tamil rebellion.

The councils are to have autonomous powers meant to satisfy Tamil demands for separate homelands in northern and eastern Sri Lanka.

Jayewardene's decision means elections will not be held in the areas worst affected by separatist violence. The President had earlier said polls would be held in April.

Greek arms magnate shot dead

ATHENS, March 1, (Reuters): A Greek arms magnate was shot dead in Athens today and an extreme left-wing group claimed responsibility for the killing, police said.

Alexandros Athanassiades, 59, the director of Pyrkal, one of Greece's largest arms companies, was shot six times by a gunman with a .45 calibre revolver riding on the back of a motor-scooter, they said.

Athanassiades was shot as he drove to his office in an Athens suburb. He was taken to hospital where he died.

Leaflets left at the scene of the shooting said an extreme left-wing guerrilla organisation called "Revolutionary Organisation November 17" carried out the murder, police said.

The leaflets accused socialist Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu "of failing economically and leading the country into a deep economic, social and cultural crisis."

Troops enforce curfew in troubled Soviet city

MOSCOW, March 1, (Reuters): Troops and armoured cars enforced an overnight curfew in the troubled Azerbaijani city of Sumgait, a local police official said today.

The official, contacted by telephone from Moscow, said the industrial centre was quiet after rioting between Azerbaijanis and Armenians over the weekend.

"Troops and armoured personnel carriers are on the streets to enforce the curfew," he said. "The situation is now under control. Everything is quiet."

Operations

He said the curfew was in operation between 8 pm until 7 am local time in the city, just north of the Azerbaijan capital of Baku.

He denied reports that there were tanks on the streets. The official, who answered the telephone at the Sumgait police station but declined to be named, said he had no information on casualties in the clashes.

In Moscow, Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov told a news conference there had been injuries in Sumgait.

"If there are acts of violence, then there are certain injuries," he said with elaborating. "The situation is calm there today, but it is tense," he added.

Voted

The rioting broke out on Sunday and local officials said it was linked to unrest in the disputed Nagorno-Karabakh region.

According to the local newspaper in the regional capital Stepanakert, the regional assembly voted overwhelmingly some two weeks ago to seek the region's detachment from Azerbaijan and its reunification with Soviet Armenia.

Last week, tens of thousands of people demonstrated for several days in Yerevan, capital of neighbouring Soviet Armenia, in support of the vote.

Effort

The protests passed without incident. Officials and residents of the city said police made no effort to intervene.

A video film of the marches and rallies showed uniformed policemen chatting with the demonstrators.

The demonstrations were suspended for a month on Saturday after Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev received two top Armenian writers to discuss the issue and assured them it would be carefully studied.

Officials in Stepanakert said at the weekend there had been no intervention there either by police or troops although demonstrations by Armenians were still continuing.

Speaking at a regular briefing Gerasimov said protesters in the town, which has a population of some 33,000, were staging "rolling demonstrations," or taking shifts on the streets.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Mubarak visits

KHARTOUM, March 1, (Reuters): Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak arrived today for talks with Sudanese leaders which are expected to centre on the current uneasy state of relations between the two Nile basin countries.

Officials said Mubarak, last here nearly three years ago, would see head of state Ahmed Ali Mirghani and Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi on his previously unscheduled one-day trip.

Turgut Ozal

NICOSIA, March 1, (Reuters): Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal left for Ankara today after a three-day visit to Iran and after hearing a plea for his government to promote Islamic values.

Iran's national news agency, Irna, monitored in Cyprus, said Ozal had talks yesterday with Ayatollah Hussein Ali Montazeri, who urged Turkey to pay "greater respect to Islamic principles and make an effort to promote Islamic culture."

Food poisoning

JAKARTA, Indonesia, March 1, (AP): Twenty-one people died of food poisoning in the central Java district of Banyumas after eating fermented soybean cake, a Health Ministry official said today.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said 40 others remained hospitalised in serious condition.

Night-clubs

SINGAPORE, March 1, (UPI): Night-club owners ordered to ban homosexuals and transvestites from the premises complained today transsexuals are making the directive difficult to enforce.

Marlboro



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KUWAIT... GULF

Nasser's son accuses US, Israel of defamation campaign

THE son of late Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser was quoted yesterday as accusing the United States and Israel of trying to "settle old accounts" with his father by defaming him and his brothers.

Khaled Abdel Nasser, in an interview from Belgrade by a Kuwaiti newspaper described as the first since criminal charges were levelled against him by Cairo, affirmed that he was going to return to Egypt to face trial even though he faced possible execution.

"I do not fear death for the quest of my homeland and country," the 38-year-old man said in the published interview. "But I reject death in response to the desire of enemies or as a surrender to their decisions."

Indictment

Khaled is among 20 men charged in connection with four shootings between 1984 and 1987 that killed two Israelis and wounded six others as well as two Americans.

The defendants were said to

have been grouped in a clandestine organisation called Egypt's Revolution. The indictment demands the death penalty for 11 defendants, including the young Nasser, and prison terms up to life for the rest.

Egypt has said it is attempting to have him extradited to stand trial as one of three founders of Egypt's Revolution and its main financial backer. The group is committed to ending Israel's presence in Egypt and Cairo's commitment to peace agreements signed with Israel.

Asylum

The paper said that Algeria has offered political refuge to Abdel Nasser but he turned down the offer, saying "my father never imagined being as such in any country and preferred to die while fighting his enemies rather than accept that."

Eradicate

"The defamation campaign being launched against me and my brothers is but an American and Israeli attempt to settle old accounts," he said.

He added: "Those who failed to face President Nasser for 18 years of his rule and to eradicate his name from the conscience of the Egyptian masses for 18 years after his death, now return to launch their campaigns."

Ashraf Marwan, told the Cairo magazine Al-Mussawwar in an interview last month that Nasser sought asylum first in Algeria, then in Iraq, but his requests were ignored.

Nasser referred to what he called "a defamation campaign" against him and his two younger brothers in the Egyptian press and said this was "not separate from the hostile American and Israeli blueprint which has been employed over the past 36 years with the aim of obliterating Nasser's legendary place in the hearts of the Arab masses."



● A delegation from Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) visited the Ministry of Education and Higher Education in Riyadh on Sunday where they discussed the need to continue their joint cooperation efforts in various fields of research and development. After meeting with the Assistant Undersecretary for military installations Sabah Al Naser and his assistants, the delegation was given a tour of the department's various sections (picture).

No ban on pilgrims, says Saudi Arabia

RIYADH, March 1, (Agencies): Saudi Arabia declared yesterday that it would not bar Iranians from pilgrimage to Makkah, Islam's holiest shrine and scene of violent rioting during last year's pilgrimage season.

A government official was quoted by the Saudi Press Agency as saying: "There is no need to bar any Muslim from performing the pilgrimage rites."

Dates will be announced soon by the responsible authorities regarding the commencement of entry formalities, said the official, a representative of the Ministry of Pilgrimage and Awaqaf, Religious Endowments.

The agency did not provide the official's name, but said he made the statement in response to "recent claims by some Iranian responsible officials regarding a trend to bar Iranians from this year's pilgrimage."

Soviet team seeks to boost cooperation

A DELEGATION from the Soviet Academy of Sciences yesterday arrived here to explore future cooperation possibilities between Kuwait and the Soviet Union in the environment and petroleum fields.

The delegation, headed by director of the Soviet Petrochemicals Institute Prof. Nicolai Blati, is scheduled to hold talks with officials in various Kuwaiti scientific institutions.

The four-day visit comes within the framework of scientific cooperation between the Soviet Science Academy and Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research.

Gulf TV committee meeting

THE Gulf Cooperation Council's unified television programme purchasing committee will hold its second meeting in Bahrain next week to discuss coordinating the purchase of television programmes for GCC states.

Sources at the GCC Secretariat said the committee would discuss recommendations made at the committee's first meeting and the possibility of attending the International Film Festivals and Olympic Games.

Handicraft courses

NINE-WEEK courses in ceramics, jewellery making, metal work and watercolour drawing will commence on March 5 at Bayt Al Badr, near Sadu House and the National Museum.

Registration for the courses has started. For further information contact Sazan Al Mutawa at 'Dar 'Al Athar', Al Islamiya, or call 2435915 between 8 am and 1 pm.

The craft courses will be held in the former women's courtyard at Bayt Al Badr. The 'Muhtarraf', as the centre will be called, will explore various aspects of craftsmanship and basic techniques will be taught, although students will not be discouraged to explore for themselves.

Two classes on ceramics are available: hand-building and throwing on the electric wheel. A class in hand-building will also be available for children.

The metalwork and jewellery course will provide basic guidelines for those interested in making their own pots, plates and even rings and pendants.

The watercolour drawing class will explore assorted techniques and will consist of drawing and watercolour painting projects.

Farmers facing difficulty to sell their produce

KUWAITI farmers have complained that the Shuwaikh Vegetable Market does not have sufficient space for farmers to market local agricultural produce, especially at this time of year when many vegetables are being harvested.

A member of the Kuwaiti Farmers Union Saleh Al Anbue said that prices of locally-grown tomatoes have dropped sharply because farmers must sell them at public auction in huge quantities or at illegal locations.

Al Anbue accused the Municipality of failing to take

measures regarding this problem, adding that the Municipality did not allow farmers to sell their produce outside of the Shuwaikh market. He asked that the Municipality provide other locations for farmers to market agricultural produce, especially during the harvest season.

The union's secretary Saad Al Utaibi also called on relevant authorities to prohibit the importation of vegetables, which are already available from the local market, adding that local produce was sufficient to meet consumer demand.

Symposium on research

AT a symposium entitled "Problems Facing Scientific Research", held at Kuwait University on Sunday, Dr Jassim Al Hasan, the head of the Biochemistry Department said that certain facilities, which could be very helpful to researchers, were unavailable to them. He added that there was a considerable shortage of research aid that hampered the progress of researchers.

Dr Al Hasan explained that research work is first presented to the Scientific Research Committee for review. The committee submits the work to the vice rector in charge of research, who then refers it to a specialist committee which determines the value of the content for further action.

Dr Saleh Al Tuhaih, the head of the consultative studies section at the Amiri Diwan, said that research activity depended on the efforts of scientific establishments and university professors. He added that Kuwait had institutes such as Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Science and others that had in this capacity.

Al Tuhaih stressed the need for coordination among these institutes to support research programmes and to enhance scientific expertise.



● Following a recent visit from VIP directors to Holiday Inn Kuwait, a reception party was held to welcome Alan Parker who will be taking over the operations for Europe, Middle East and Africa. The directors are touring the Gulf properties to orient the new vice president, who was here on his first visit to Kuwait. The management team, led by Jean Abu Nohra, general manager, bid farewell to David Woodward and gave a warm welcome to Alan Parker, Vice President Europe, Middle East and Africa.

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Al Hajji to inspect project in Khartoum

THE chairman of the International Islamic Charity Association, Yousuf Al Hajji, has left for Khartoum to inspect the association's project in Sudan and to attend the opening of the Holy Quran College at Umm Durman City.

He will inspect the hospital project at Kasla area, which has been financed by Abdulaziz Al Muzani Company.

He will later leave for Cairo to attend the Islamic Dawa Conference organised by Al Azhar University from March 4 to 8 and will attend the laying of the foundation stone for the Preachers Institute which is being financed by the association.

Al Hajji will hold talks with the sheikh of Al Azhar University on the possibility of cooperation in spreading Islam and giving financial help to Muslim students in Egypt.

Exam schedule approved

KUWAIT University's Dean's Committee approved the exam schedule for the 1988-1989 academic year at its recent meeting. In addition the committee approved registration procedures for the next summer session which will allow all university students to take summer courses, including Kuwait students who are currently studying abroad.

The committee also agreed to send a questionnaire to all university teachers who are given university housing with questions as to whether they prefer the current housing arrangement or would rather have a rent and furniture allowance to be determined by the Civil Service Council.

Arrested for selling liquor

JAHRA Governorate detectives arrested an Indian national identified as Fernandes A for making and selling liquor in the Yarmouk area.

Detectives confiscated the distillation equipment and two bottles of the liquor manufactured by the defendant.

Further investigations are in progress.

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ROYAL COURT

Congratulations

HH the Amir yesterday sent a cable of congratulations to Senegal's President Abdou Diouf on the occasion of his reelection as president of his country.

The Amir also sent a similar congratulatory cable to the Cyprus President.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

Arabs' role in uprising

KUWAITI daily Al Rai Al Aam yesterday, while hailing Pakistan's role in supporting Afghanistan in its struggle against the Soviet military invasion, wondered about the Arabs' role in solving the Palestinian problem.

The daily, in a front-page editorial asked what the Arabs have done to enable the popular uprising in occupied Palestine to achieve its goals of ending the Israeli occupation and restoring the legitimate national Palestinian rights.

The paper noted that as long as the US-Israeli strategy targets killing only Arab military effort aiming at ending the occupation, there should be a counter Arab strategy that aborts the US-Israeli schemes.

The paper stressed that "Pakistan opened its doors for Afghan refugees and exposed its borders to Soviet attacks," and the paper said to ensure the Palestinian uprising's success, it needs a Muslim neighbouring state like Pakistan to encourage the demonstrators.

"Al Rai Al Aam however, pointed out that "the uprising's role in pushing forward the peace process should not be ignored yet, in order to succeed further, there are a number of conditions such as opening of the neighbouring borders to occupied Palestine to allow the arms and ammunition to flow into the occupied lands."

GULF PRESS

Interim government in Afghanistan supported

SAUDI newspapers yesterday commented on the Afghan problem, the Iraq-Iran war and the Middle East tour of US Secretary of State George Shultz.

Al Jazirah said the kingdom had expressed its support for the interim government in Afghanistan.

"The kingdom has become the first country in the Islamic and non-Islamic world, which recognises the government of mujahideen," the daily said.

It added that the kingdom had expressed its appreciation for efforts exerted by Pakistan to settle the Afghan problem.

Okaz newspaper hailed the idea of forming an interim government for the Afghan people and said this development has provided a good evidence of the Afghan leaders' far-sightedness.

"It is normal that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which has made all possible efforts to support the Afghan cause, will back the idea of an interim government," the daily said.

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March 1. The Minister for Labour, Mr. A. J. ...

Ex-congressman criticises US Middle East policy

RIYADH, March 1, (AP): Former US Congressman Paul Findley, an outspoken critic of Washington's Middle East policy, concluded a 12-day Gulf tour during which he sharply attacked American support for Israel.

"I see nothing but trouble ahead," Findley said of the US policy in the Middle East. He spoke in an interview with the Associated Press.

He criticised Congress' "failure to stand up for the right of self-determination for the Palestinians. It's the logical step for US to take."

"We believe in it (self-determination) in South Africa and other places, so we ought to believe in it in the Middle East too," he said.

Commenting on US and Israeli rejection of Palestine Liberation Organisation participation in Middle East peace initiatives, Findley said:

"I don't think it ought to be up to the United States, Israel or any other party to decide on the composition of the delegation that will represent the Palestinians."

"That ought to be left up to them," he said.

Gift
Findley served as a Congressman for 22 years before 1982. He said the PLO is "an important political power in Middle East politics."

He described as "stupid" a US decision to close the PLO's information office in Washington and the Organisation's mission at the United Nations.

Speaking to American businessmen in Dhahran, Jeddah and Riyadh, Findley said US citizens should realise that the taxes they were paying were being sent as financial aid to Israel.

"Each of the last three years, Congress has seen fit to appropriate three billion dollars as a gift to the state of Israel. It sweeps through Congress that also sees fit to cut back on aid for education, aid for our national defence needs, aid for farmers, aid for small business, aid for you name it," he said.

While in the United Arab Emirates, Findley said in lectures in Abu Dhabi and Dubai, "the vast majority of the American people were horrified by the daily scenes of young men being beaten to death."



Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Sabah (centre), meeting chief editors.

Iranian military option fails, says Iryani

DEPUTY Premier and Foreign Minister of Yemen Arab Republic Dr Abdul Karim Al Iryani has affirmed that Iran in its war against Iraq "has lost the ability to change the strategic balance in its favour."

He added in an interview with Seyassah that "the Iranian military option has failed, and as long as the war continues Iraq becomes stronger."

On the Palestinian uprising in occupied lands, Iryani told the Kuwaiti paper that the Palestinian revolt assured each Arab that a new generation is born to restore the Arab nation's dignity.

Commenting on last month's visit to Sanaa by Lebanese President Amin Gemayel, the Yemeni official said "there is nothing new" and the visit came

in response to an invitation by Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

He stressed that the Lebanese crisis cannot be solved out of the Arab framework. He referred in this respect to the Syrian role in finding a solution to the Lebanon problem, because, according to him, the situation in Lebanon affects Syria's economy and security.

On the unity between the two Yemens, Iryani said the unity talks will resume in the few coming days. He noted that there are differences in opinion between the two Yemens on this issue, but did not elaborate on them.

He expressed belief that Yemeni unity cannot be achieved but through peaceful democratic means.

Voice of GCC goes on air from Kuwait

INFORMATION Minister Sheikh Jaber Al Mubarak Al Hamad Al Sabah yesterday expressed happiness for hosting the "Voice of the Gulf Cooperation Council" broadcast by Radio Kuwait for the third time since its establishment.

He said in a statement on this occasion, that the first time Kuwait Radio aired "Voice of GCC" was three years ago when the GCC summit was held in Kuwait.

He noted that the broadcast started from yesterday 10 am to 1 pm local time.

Director of Radio Kuwait Dr Abdul Aziz Al Mansour said the idea of the "Voice of the GCC" came into being when Kuwait hosted the fifth GCC summit.

When the idea scored remarkable success, the GCC general secretariat adopted the plan and each member state hosted the voice of the GCC for three months.

Broadcasting during the last three months was transmitted from the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait will transmit for the next three months.

Programmes will include dispatches from correspondents in the member states about the daily activities of each country in addition to brief news bulletins as well as reviews of local press, depending on the region's news agencies, Al Mansour noted.

Features on artistic and literary aspects of the region will also be aired, he added.

Financial problems obstructed establishment of an integral broadcasting station, he said, but the current system of alternate hosting of "the voice" is workable.

Lecture on role of public relations

THE role of public relations at government institutions was the topic of a lecture presented on Monday by 1st Lieut Ahmed Al Sharqawi of the Ministry of Interior.

Al Sharqawi spoke about the pioneer role assumed by the Interior Ministry's Public Relations Department and the importance of planning training courses for public relations employees.

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Heritage Village exhibition

THE Kuwaiti Heritage Village exhibition, part of the celebrations marking Kuwait's 27th National Day, will continue until Thursday, Sheikhha Fatma Nasser Saud Al Sabah, a co-organiser of the event announced.

Sheikhha Fatma, who is also Deputy Head of the Architecture Department at the Public Works Ministry, said the exhibition had been extended in order to allow the public more time to visit the village.

The village, which mirrors Kuwaiti landmarks and society of the 30s, was designed in accordance with the Gulf Cooperation Council's recommendations made at the second meeting in Riyadh in 1985.

Sheikhha Fatma expressed her appreciation to Saudi Arabia for the interest they have shown in erecting a Kuwaiti village in the Janadriyah area, located near Riyadh.



Sheikhha Fatma stands beside the model of the Kuwaiti Heritage Village.



The model depicts Kuwaiti landmarks and aspects of society during the 1930s.

Three Bahrainis charged with spying for Iran

MANAMA, March 1, (AP): Three Bahrainis arrested three months ago on suspicion of plotting sabotage attacks have been charged with spying for Iran, it was reported here today.

Bahrain's pro-government newspapers said the three appeared before Bahrain's security court yesterday and were formally charged, apparently

during a closed session. Their trial has been fixed for April 4, the papers added.

The three men, Nahil Ibrahim Bager, Ahmed Hussain Mirza and Khaled Abdel Rassoul Al Amiri, were arrested last December. An Interior Ministry statement at the time said they belonged to a secret ring plotting to blow up public utility installations.

The statement added the three confessed to an investigating magistrate. Bager also confessed he received weapon and explosive training in a foreign country, which was not named by the statement at the time.

Informed sources stated then one of the sabotage targets was Bahrain's Bapco Oil Refinery, a facility providing fuel to United States naval units.

Six burnt in explosion

SIX workers were burnt when the garage where they worked caught fire following the explosion of a gas cylinder in the kitchen.

The fire was extinguished by firemen from the Sulahikhat fire brigade.

The concerned authorities are investigating the incident.

Al Mujtamaa reappears

THE Islamic fundamentalist weekly Al Mujtamaa reappeared on Kuwait's newstands yesterday after a two-week suspension ordered by the Information Ministry for publishing text banned by the censor.

An editorial urged the Kuwaiti government to abrogate laws that did not conform to Islam and to combat corruption among the country's youth.

'Reports must be factual'

(Continued from Page 1)

a destructive war.

Sheikh Jaber Mubarak told the editors that, being the sons of this land, it was understandable that they would support every good effort made in the interest of the country and citizens.

He hoped that the editors would create a public opinion towards any issue offered within this framework, whether political, economic, social, or educational.

The acting Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed also met the chief editors.

Ershad sends message to Amir

KUWAIT State Minister for Foreign Affairs Saoud Mohammed Al Osaimei received a message sent to HH the Amir from President of Bangladesh Hossein Mohammed Ershad.

The message was delivered to Osaimei last night by Ambassador of Bangladesh to Kuwait K M Shehabuddin.

Osaimei also received last night the Jordanian Ambassador Nabil Al Talhoumi and Danish Ambassador Burger Dan Nilsson to Kuwait.

Sheikh Nawaf meets Hilmi

DEFENCE and acting Interior Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed received here today Egyptian Major General Ahmed Hilmi on the occasion of his visit to the country.

Hilmi relayed a message to Nawaf from Defence Minister Field Marshal Mohammed Abu Ghazala and the two sides reviewed scopes of bilateral military cooperation.

Sheikh Sabah meetings

ACTING Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed yesterday received the Minister of Defence and acting Interior Minister, Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed, Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad Al Sabah, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Rashed, Public Works Minister Abdul Rahman Al Hnati and Finance Minister Jasssem Mohammed Al Khorafi.

Sheikh Sabah received the Soviet Ambassador to Kuwait Ernest Zverev.

Zverev explained to Sheikh Sabah the outcome of the talks held recently in Moscow between the Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and his American counterpart George Shultz specially where the Middle East crisis, the Iraq-Iran war and Afghanistan are concerned, Sheikh Sabah said.

Children's books exhibition opens today

THE Ninth Exhibition of Children's Books and Toys will open today under the auspices of the State Minister for Cabinet Affairs and chairman of the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters, Rashed Al Rashed, at the International Fairground at Mishref.

There will be a wide range of children's books and toys, as well as paintings, appliances and computerised educational programmes for children.

The exhibition will include pavilions of the Interior Ministry's Traffic Department and the Health Ministry.

Twenty-four bookshops, 12 companies dealing in toys and two computer companies are taking part. About 10,750 Arabic and foreign books and about 2,700 toys will be on display.

The National Council has prepared an index containing the names of participants and list of the books.

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Jashannal

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By Gail Seery

"Little Shop of Horrors" is an extraordinarily silly film. It was recommended to me by a friend, who assured me that it would be right up my street. This has told me a lot more than I wanted to know about his idea of me.

I don't think I've ever seen such a silly film before, and think that it has possibly cured me of my liking for the genre. Seymour works in a florist shop on Skid Row which is losing business very badly. Finally he suggests that it might be a boost to business if they place a "strange and interesting plant" in the window. "It's not going to make any difference if we put a strange and interesting plant in the window," contradicts his boss. Just then the door opens and an eager faced customer pokes his head around the corner. "Excuse me, I couldn't help noticing that strange and interesting plant." He goes on to buy a hundred dollars worth of roses, and suddenly the shop is full of people who have come in just to see the plant.

Not everything is so easy however. The plant is not flourishing, and Seymour has tried every trick he knows, to no avail. Then, after the shop has cleared, he picks his finger and discovers the awful truth — the plant eats blood. He feeds it with his own blood while it's small enough, but it is clear right from the start that things are going to get badly out of hand.

VIDEO CORNER

Silly talk

It's not a straight horror film, or even a straight comedy, because even if you wanted to take all this seriously, the cast hurt in to excellent 60s type soul/mo'ntown music at the slightest excuse. A trio of black girl vocalists haunt the action, and make the whole story even more unreal. The silliest thing of all is that the sadist who becomes the plant's first victim, is a dentist, and became one at his mother's advice because she quickly saw that he had a talent for causing pain. This film is consequently not to be recommended to anyone currently waiting for a dental appointment.

It will come as no surprise to anyone in the circumstances to find that the good guys win. The song list itself tells us a lot about the silliness of the film, as it includes gems like, "He looks like plant food to me," and "I'm a dentist."

The film is not enough to give anyone nightmares — on the other hand, an "Evening with Dame Edna Everage" might be. For those familiar with Barry Humphries' creation, the chat show she now hosts in the UK, has to be considered very funny indeed. "She" gets a good range of celebrities, and tears

them to shreds where possible. She has a chair that carries her guests off when they get boring or use bad language, and occasionally is forced to abort an interview — with "Kurt Waldheim" or "Zsa Zsa Gabor" for vaguely spurious reasons. Gabor is walking down the long staircase when a trap door opens and she slides out. "Sorry about that possums," Dame Edna croons. "I had to abort that interview; she was wearing a natural fur coat, and I couldn't allow that on my show."

Guests who make it to the leather armchair include Mary Whitehouse, Cliff Richard, Sean Connery, Jeffrey Archer, Denis Roussos and Joan Rivers. They struggle admirably to keep her at bay with varying degrees of success, and in particular Mary Whitehouse makes a very good job of it. Dame Edna fights back with hurtful comments: "you were getting a teensy bit boring Jeffrey, and I mean that in a loving, caring way."

Apparently she gave a series of live shows recently in which panie stricken members of the audience were invited on to the stage to be humiliated. Even so, she really is very funny.



Dame Edna Everage: 'she' has a chair that carries her guests off when they get boring.

film that defies an easy categorisation, the viewer is held in a did-he-do-it, no-he-didn't state until the final revelations. Flipped out psycho Paul White is on the surface just another small town Arizona good-old-boy. Even his wife suspects nothing of her husband's alter ego that commits ritualised rape and murder on the town's wealthy women. Cathy Moriarty gives a good performance as the wife who slowly comes to realise just how loony her husband is. The film's title comes from the Apache Indian's phrase for the latter stage of dementia and to this effect there are plenty of close ups of ... you guessed it, the whites of people's eyes!

Rugby International and Basketball continue. A new best-seller based on James Clavell's Noble House will be released for the week-end.

The above films are by courtesy of VFI, Safeway, Farwania; Video Nafi, mezzanine, Salmiya Complex (Tel: 2432809) and Video Club, Salmiya.



Promoting Malaysia

Mohan Dass (above) the Director of Pan-Pacific Kuala Lumpur Hotels, is currently visiting Kuwait to promote Malaysia as a tourist resort. At a press dinner hosted on Tuesday night at the Meridien Hotel Dass said that tourism from the Gulf has increased. "A growing number of tourists from the Arab world are visiting Malaysia. They find our country a safe and suitable holiday destination for the family".

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 2.15 Holy Quran
- 2.30 World News via Satellite
- 3.30 Ihtal Al Mu'Laeh: cartoons
- 4.00 News Summary
- 4.05 World News via Satellite
- 4.25 Ghadah Al Sahara: historical serial, starring Abdul Rahman Al Rish, Sahar Rami
- 5.15 Bain Al Ams Wa Al Youm: Between Yesterday and Today. Fatima Al Toq examines the history of telephone services in the country.
- 6.00 Songs
- 7.00 News Summary
- 7.05 With Students: hosted by Essa Rushoud
- 7.45 Folklore: presented by Mohamad Mutair
- 8.15 Good Evening and local news
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Surq Al Simt: part 5 of Arabic serial, starring Sana Jamil, Hamdi Ghaith, Anwar Ismael, Mimi Jamal, Ahmad Badr.
- 10.50 Music Studio: a variety show featuring Ruhah, Jamal Rashed, Nofal Abdul Jalil, Abdullah Rowaid, Shad, Sulaiman Al Moosa and others.
- 12.15 News Summary



The Channing clan in Falcon Crest, tonight at 10.30 pm on KTV2.

- 12.25 World News via Satellite
- 1.45 Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

- 2.15 Opening & Holy Quran
- 2.22 Cartoons
- 3.00 Kuwait TV message on 9th Gulf Football Championship
- 3.20 Live telecast of the 9th Gulf Football Championship Opening Ceremony.
- 5.45 Football match, Saudi Arabia vs Oman
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 J.J. Starbuck: Dale

Robertson plays an eccentric billionaire who becomes a private eye. In tonight's episode, he prevents a pianist committing suicide.

9.30 The world of Strange Power: "Walking on Fire." This episode has been carried over from last week and talks about the power of yodis and others who can walk on fire.

10.00 Perfect Strangers: "Ladies and Gents." Larry has flu but does not take medicine.

10.30 Falcon Crest: "Man-hunt." Richard and Angela have been kidnapped by Travis. Maggie manages to rescue them. Lance is heartbroken after his girlfriend dies and Melissa plans to open a new winery.

12.00 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

By Shaun Seekins

THE Rosary Murders is a new mystery thriller, starring Donald Sutherland and Charles Durning, filmed entirely in Detroit, which turns out to be an excellent backdrop for this atmospheric film. For Donald Sutherland it is his 50th film in a career spanning 33 years and he only works these days when the script appeals to him. This has a lot to please him — as a mysterious killer leaves a trail of corpses behind him, all clutching a rosary in their hands.

Said director-star Sondra Locke (perhaps best known for co-starring with Clint Eastwood in life as well as in half a dozen films) "I wanted to make a film that was strange, funny, sad, cruel and wistful. A film impossible to describe."

Let's start by attempting the latter. A small rat-like person is kidnapped from a rubbish dump by two undesirable to generate some money-making coverage from the media. Before they can cash in, an

Hype merchants

opportunistic window-dresser, Nikki Morrison (Locke) swoops on their lair and threatens the duo with all kinds of grim repercussions before taking over responsibility for the rat-boy.

With the dubious help of her two dim brothers, she too hopes to make a fortune out of exploiting the freak. But her plans are dashed, when at a crucial press conference to launch her 'discovery' the rat-boy takes fright and makes off with a streetwise black minder hired as his chaperone.

Realising, finally, that she is no better than the other hype merchants she has encountered, Nikki determines to help rat-boy find peace. But she reckons without gun toting cops on their trail.

If all this sounds incredibly unlikely, and a bit ridiculous, then one will have done full

justice to Miss Locke's debut feature as a director.

Defence Play is a much better production, just the right mixture of car chases and thrills to keep the plot going. David Oliver plays Scott Denton the high school graduate who gets involved with a Russian plan to destroy a Star Wars space satellite. Together with co-ed Karen (Susan Ursitt) he tries to clear the name of her father, a university professor killed in a mysterious accident, and his own father who is an air force colonel blamed for the tragic death. This all involves a lot of playing with computers to find out what really happened to Karen's father. Working on the tried and tested plot of kids knowing better than grown-ups and being proved right as they finally save the day, it is an up-to-date thriller worth watching.

White of the Eye is a strange

NIGHT CHEMIST

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Tukhaim Bldg., Fahad Al Salem St.
Al Omar Pharmacy
Awkaf Bldg., Mubarak Al Kahir St.

Hawalli and Nugra
Al Walid Pharmacy
Tunis St.

Salmiya and Rumaythiya
Al Razan Pharmacy
Fahad Al Hamad Al Khalid Bldg., Razi St.

Fahadheel and Ahmadi
Al Burgan Pharmacy
Souk Sabah, Fheel

Khairat
Al Khaitan Pharmacy
Ibrahim Bin Adham St.

Jahra
Al Zahra Pharmacy
New Market

PRAYERS

Fajr	4.53 am
Zuhr	12.00
Asr	3.20pm
Maghreh	5.49
Isha	7.05

WANTED

2 Marine mechanics specialised in outboard engines.
2 Marine diesel mechanics
2 Marine mechanical helpers
Please Tel. 2423449, 9am-12.30 pm, 4-6.30 pm.

WANTED
A/C Mechanic

with 3 years of experience.
Contact: Mr. Sultan
Tel. 4717841,
2425511, 4 to 7 pm.

Wanted for
Contracting Co.

- 1- Elec. Eng. with min 3 years experience
- 2- Mech. Eng. with min 3 years experience
- 3- Elec. Foreman having good experience
- 4- Mech. Foreman having good experience

Al Soor Street, Al Nasar Building, 3rd Floor.
Phone 2427289.

WANTED

- 1. 40 seater bus, 1986 or later model in good all-round condition.
- 2. Low bed trailer, load capacity 40 tons, in good condition.

Please contact Tel. 3262408/3262405, from 9 am to 4 pm.



Donald Sutherland with a co-star in The Rosary Murders.

WHAT'S ON

SOCIAL

Canadian Women's League
Ladies will meet on Saturday, March 5, from 4 to 6 pm. Location of meeting has changed. For details phone 3718678.

German-Speaking Cultural Association
The next coffee morning is from 10 am on Sunday, March 6, at the Kuwait Hilton's old Falaika Room. All German-speaking women are welcome.

Ladies Tea Party
The International Ladies Tea Party will hold a fancy dress competition at their next meeting on March 2 at the Kuwait Plaza Hotel. A karate expert will demonstrate self-defence techniques. For participating contact 5317390; 5386297.

Photography Contest

Kapilku has extended the deadline for the Photography Contest. All entries must be submitted on or before March 31. Entrants must state the Kapilku ID number on all entries. The entries will be judged on April 7. Winning entries will be displayed at an exhibition hall (venue will be announced later). For further details contact 4877793.

Mina Bazaar
A Mina Bazaar will be held on March 4 at 9 am at the EPI ground, Sulaybiyah, to mark the Independence Day of Bangladesh. A cricket match between Bangladesh Reds and Bangladesh Greens will also be held. All are welcome.

Oanella
Daniella, a Danish group, invites all Danes to a coffee morning in Kuwait Towers from 9.30 am on March 6. For details contact Marianne 3948953 or Ingelise - 3903464.

Kuwait Irish Society
St Patrick's Day celebration on March 17 at the Holiday Inn Hotel. If interested contact 5621701, 5622701, 8 am to 2 pm or 3624175 after 2 pm.

Flightriders
If our child is BA flightrider member and has not received invitation to Flightrider Party on March 3 contact 2413868 or 2425496.

Ghazal Singers
Well-known Indian ghazal singers Jagjit and Chitra Singh will give a concert on March 4, Friday, at the Kuwait Hilton. Tickets on sale at the hotel.

Rock'n Romance
Kawan Players present Rock'n Romance a rock show with a romantic touch at the Regency Palace Hotel at 8 pm on March 20, 21, 22, 23; and at 3 pm and 8 pm on March 24. For reservations call 5624175 (after 2 pm); 5745838.

SPORTS

Interschol Knockout '88
Interschol Knockout '88 will take place at the Holiday Inn Hotel. Games featuring students and teachers will be held for three nights. For details contact the Holiday Inn hotel.

Mini Rugby
Due to the senior team playing Dubai there will be no mini rugby for the mini and midi groups. Senior boys to attend on time at 1000 to prepare for the Marathon. Any queries to Geoff Bennett - 115720831 or Hugh McAree - 4731087.

Football Tournament
Tivim Centre, Kuwait, will hold a one-day seven-a-side football tournament on March 25 at Sour Grounds, Kuwait City. Draw will be held at 6.30 am on the same day. Games will begin at 7.30 am. For details phone D'Mello - 2434634 or Almcida - 4813892.

THEATRE

ACT
ACT presents "An Evening of Absurdity" from March 7 to 10 at 8 pm at the Mousetrap Theatre, New English School, featuring two absurdly comic one-act plays. The Bald Sorano by Eugene Ionesco and The America Dream by Edward Albee. A special discount will be given for all opening-night tickets. For reservations ring 5639204; 5620332; 5725071.

CINEMA

Al Andalus
The Living Daylights
Starring: Timothy Dalton

Al Salmiya
Legal Eagle
Starring: Robert Redford

Al Hamra
Al Nirm Wal Unsa (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Athar Al Hakim

Drive-In
Al Mal'ouh (Arabic)
Starring: Mahmoud Yaseen, Imaan

Al Firdous
Sindoor (Hindi)
Starring: Jaya Prada

Fahadheel Open-Air
Jallianwala Bagh (Hindi)
Starring: Vinod Khanna, Deepil Naval

Al Fahadheel
Hasna Wa Amalqah (Arabic)

Al Jahra
Hana K.

Granada
Al Nirm Wal Unsa (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Athar Al Hakim

Sulaybiyah
Sarvakalasala (Malayalam)

Al Jleeh
Shahenshah (Hindi)
Starring: Amitabh Bachchan, Jaya Prada

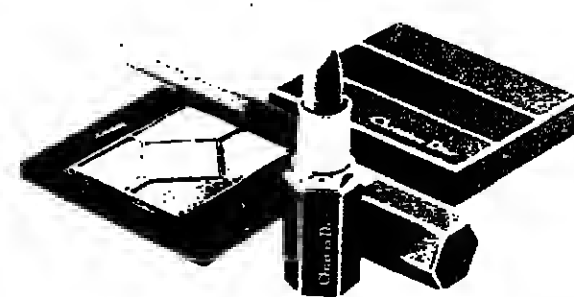
Ahmadi Drive-In
Rajul Fi Ayoun Imraa (Arabic)

Christian Dior

MAQUILLAGE HAUTE COULEUR



LES BOUQUETS. NEW COLLECTION SPRING/SUMMER



Christian Dior Beauticians will demonstrate the Christian Dior style of applying "LES BOUQUETS", the latest colour collection, and give advice on proper skin care at the following Christian Dior retail outlets:

OUTLETS	TEL. NO.	DATES (March)	OUTLETS	TEL. NO.	DATES (March)
Cortoba Showroom.....	5719325	2 & 3	Safeway, Farwania.....	4738933	2 to 15
Samah Centre, Hawally.....	2661200	2 & 3	Ext. 111		
Jashanmal & Partners Ltd., Kuwait.....	2420071/72	2 to 15	Safeway, Fahadheel.....	3927228/9	2 to 15
Jashanmal & Partners Ltd., Salmiya.....	5721865	2 to 15	Tanagra Center.....	2431336	5 & 6
Al Gharabally Store, Ahmadi.....	3981929	2 to 15	Fayasel Supermarket.....	5317202	5 & 6
			Ext. 201		
			Dina Pharmacy.....	5713120	5 & 6

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

ONE half of the world cannot understand the pleasures of the other — Jane Austen, English novelist (1775-1817).

Barefoot revolution sweeps Third World

By Peter Millership

LONDON, (Reuters): The people of the Third World are refusing to become institutionalised beggars and are banding together in small communities to dig themselves out of poverty, says a new report for "The Club of Rome".

Entitled "The Barefoot Revolution," it brands the past 20 years of development effort, characterised by sophisticated Western-style projects, as a costly disaster and looks at new small-scale farm, health and education programmes across Latin America, Africa and Asia.

The report is written by Bertrand Schneider, Club of Rome's secretary-general. Founded 20 years ago, the club is an informal grouping of government leaders, scientists, economists and businessmen who seek to influence national policies by recommending new strategies.

"Rural development in the Third World is not only a life and death matter for two million peasants, but also a problem affecting the peace and security of every nation," Schneider says.

His report focuses on the spread of self-help, grassroots projects started by non-governmental organisations (NGOs) — seen as the new agents of change.

"This new trend is radically changing the tenets of development that have prevailed until now, for it entails a complete overhaul of 20 years of economic strategy that has not fulfilled its promises," the report said.

Published as a book in Britain on Feb 25, the report calls on governments and financial institutions to recognise so-called NGOs as fully-fledged agents of development and to support them with appropriate funding.

"In view of the failure of 20 years of development efforts patterned on Western industrial society's models, it is clearly time to try less ambitious and more pragmatic approaches," it says.

Engineers and water experts now say most of the giant water projects undertaken in the Third World since the 1960s have been disasters and have had devastating ecological effects displacing hundreds of thousands of people.

The construction of Egypt's Aswan High Dam, seen as a dar-

ing step to modernise a poor country, wrecked tracts of farmland and destroyed the country's sardine industry, the report says.

Intensive

In Tanzania, a farming project in Arusha was far too intensive for the valley's delicate tropical ecology and the entire multi-million dollar scheme had to be rethought.

Brazil's debt has been aggravated by enormous construction projects.

The report says that in Africa, as in Latin America, food-sufficiency is undermined by spending scarce cash on huge agro-industrial schemes to grow cash crops for export.

In terms of feeding hungry people, the results have been devastating. African food production has dropped 1.4 per cent annually since the 1960s, the report says.

Half of humanity still lives in want, malnutrition and misery, says Schneider, who told Reuters in an interview: "We want the cause of underdevelopment attacked, not (just) the consequences."

NGOs aim to provide training in the field and encourage the innovation and use of simple, local technology. They can be local or foreign. There are numerous NGO liaison offices set up within the United Nations and its regional bodies.

Network

The report, which used statistics gathered by six teams of researchers visiting 93 projects in 19 countries as well as additional material from 230 other projects, said there is a vast NGO network.

NGOs were engaged initially in charitable activities providing emergency assistance, food and medical care.

Many NGOs believe that once emergency measures have been taken, the real causes of underdevelopment should be addressed as only then does the real battle begin.

NGOs can experience problems in their work.

Foreign NGOs can be regarded with suspicion. In Bolivia, researchers were told by local people they were distrustful of some groups which have been accused of working with the US Central Intelligence Agency.

Nuclear sub causes regional concern

By Adam Kellihier

NEW DELHI, (UPI): India's acquisition of a nuclear-powered submarine has sent ripples of concern across the Indian Ocean, the strategic waters stretching from Africa to Australia through which the Soviet-built vessel will roam.

The government of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi intends the submarine NATO designates as the "Charlie" class will only be used for training and carries no nuclear weapons. It arrived Feb 3.

But analysts said leasing the Soviet sub shows India's long-term aim is to build a Navy capable of projecting its power far beyond its shores.

They said with most of the world's oil shipped from the Gulf through the Indian Ocean, New Delhi's possession of such advanced weaponry has caused unease in Pakistan, Indonesia, Thailand, Australia and East African nations, as well as Western powers with a naval presence in the waters.

"If you and your neighbour both have short knives and your neighbour suddenly buys a sword, you will watch him every day," an Asian diplomat said.

"We will watch them more."

India is only the sixth nation to possess a nuclear-powered submarine — the others are the United States, the Soviet Union, China, Britain and France — and the only Third World country to have one.

Defence experts do not expect this one vessel to alter the balance of power in the Indian Ocean seriously, as its 1970s technology makes it noisy and relatively easy to detect.

But defence industry sources said all that will change in 1991 when crews trained on the vessel will begin operating the first of four nuclear-powered "Sierra" class hunter-killer submarines to be purchased outright from Moscow, India's main arms sup-

Articles highlight the plight of bereaved families

Moscow preparing home ground for Afghan withdrawal

By Robin Lodge

MOSCOW, (Reuters): As the Soviet Union prepares the ground for withdrawing its forces from Afghanistan, there has been an upsurge of frank accounts in the Soviet media about the state of the war and the treatment of returning troops.

Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev offered to withdraw troops beginning on May 15 if an accord is reached at UN-sponsored talks in Geneva between Pakistan and Afghanistan by March 15.

Gorbachev's offer followed a number of indications from Moscow that it would withdraw if Western support for Muslim rebels ended. These were accompanied by a growing number of Soviet media reports on the war, the attitude of Soviet troops and their reception and treatment on their return home.

Articles have highlighted the plight of bereaved families, and accused the authorities of failing to do enough for disabled veterans or those with mental

scars from the war.

The impression given by such articles was that Moscow was preparing for a withdrawal, that it was no longer prepared to sustain losses estimated by Western diplomats in Kabul as running to 50 dead and wounded a day.

Afghanistan was high on the agenda at talks in Moscow this week between US Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, amid efforts to remove what has become a major stumbling block in East-West relations.

"No matter what happens at Geneva, we'll be pulling out this year," a long-time Soviet observer of the local scene told Western journalists in Afghanistan last month.

A Soviet Army colonel in the recently-relieved garrison town of Khost appeared equally confident that a withdrawal was imminent: "The boys are looking forward to going home. We all are," he said.

A recent article in the Moscow weekly Literary Gazette went so

far as to suggest that the decision to send troops into Afghanistan in December 1979 might have been a mistake, at best based on a series of miscalculations.

The article, by military writer Alexander Prokhanov, said the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA), whose tottering government Soviet troops had been sent in to support, had failed in its original aim of creating a socialist state.

"It made errors in political policies, applied false recipes for imposing socialism in a non-Afghan, non-Islamic form, which went against tradition and led to violence and repression," he said.

Prokhanov, a regular contributor to the Communist Party daily Pravda, added that the PDPA had since renounced its original policies, and as a result the continued Soviet presence was pointless.

"To leave was inevitable, logical," he wrote in a comment on Gorbachev's pull-out announcement.

"So was it pointless to go in in

the first place? I think one should not put the question that way. There was a false prognosis."

"Mistakes were made by the experts, in assessing the situation in the country, mistakes by Islamic specialists, diplomats, politicians and the military."

The article was the first indication that the Soviet Union was prepared to reassess the military intervention, which it has consistently maintained was necessary to defend the legitimate government against foreign intervention.

Killed

Soviet accounts of the December 1979 intervention generally ignore the fact that the Afghan president and PDPA leader of the time, Hafizullah Amin, was killed during the operation and replaced by the strongly pro-Soviet Babrak Karmal.

Prokhanov said the Soviet military presence had brought certain achievements:

"Fundamentalism of the Iranian type is now impossible in the country and it's accepted," he said, adding that a threat to spread an

Islamic republic across the border into Soviet Central Asia had also been averted.

In its statements aimed at foreign consumption, the Soviet Union has stressed that the "national reconciliation" policy of Karmal's successor, Najibullah, is working, and that Soviet forces in the country are now playing a much reduced role.

In December, the Afghan government announced that Soviet forces had been withdrawn from 13 of the country's 29 provinces. Foreign journalists reported few Soviet troops in the streets of Kabul, although many more outside the city.

Thousands of Afghan troops, with tanks, armoured vehicles and aircraft took part in a victory parade last month in Kabul to celebrate the Khost offensive, while Soviet troops were conspicuous by their absence.

But Soviet press and television reports depicted the Khost victory as a joint Soviet-Afghan operation. A recent television documentary showed Soviet

troops playing a major role. Prokhanov argued that the departure of the Soviet troops should not be regarded as a defeat. He said the Army was in top fighting form, with morale high among officers and troops.

"It is an organised departure from a country we never intended to occupy, which we had no intention of destroying or subjugating," he said.

Defeated

Western diplomats in Kabul agreed that the Soviet troops had not been defeated. "If they could seal the border (with Pakistan and Iran), they could probably win this war. As it is, neither side can," was how one diplomat put it.

As to the vital question of what the Soviet troops would leave behind them, Moscow appears to have washed its hands of the whole affair.

In his speech on Feb 8 announcing the Soviet plans for withdrawal, Gorbachev said the kind of government set up after the Soviet departure was a purely internal affair.

Change in Palestinian attitude

By Jeffrey Ulbrich

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, (AP): Three months of violence in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip appear to have led to a fundamental change in the attitude of Palestinian Arabs, particularly among the young.

In interviews, Arabs and Jews speak of a sense of a new Palestinian aggressiveness and self-confidence spawned by the uprising, and a feeling among Palestinians that they are taking greater control of their own future.

After two decades of Israeli rule viewed by most Arabs as harsh, unjust and capricious, residents in the territories have discovered they can, to some extent, move events. Their outrage, their stones and bottles, have drawn an international response where previously there had been only apathy.

"It is a result of 20 years of humiliating measures," said Sumeyye Naser, a biology professor at Bir Zeit University in the West Bank. "Now, they all feel they have nothing to lose."

Daring

The effect is most evident among those born after the 1967 war when Israel seized the West Bank and Gaza. Those young people have never known anything but Israeli occupation. At the barricades of stone, behind burning tyres, the spearhead is the teenager.

Youths throw stones and taunt the soldiers, daring them to retaliate. Other boys so young they can't possibly understand the political implications of what they are doing, boldly confront tear-gas and guns, stone cars,

wave V-signs and Palestinian flags.

In the village of Bir Zeit west of Ramallah, a teenager named Ahmed loitered near the post office with a group of friends, waiting for something to happen.

"I hope they come," he said of the Israeli Army. "I would like to fight them. I'd be happy to sacrifice my life."

But the movement is not exclusively young. Talks with scores of Palestinians in the territories reveal an almost universal willingness to push the confrontation to the limit.

"We have to depend on ourselves to liberate our own land," said Khaled, an elderly man hobbling on his cane at the rear of a demonstration in the village of Kfar Naama. "We have reached this conclusion, and I am ready to give my life."

Defiance

The killings, the beatings, the tear-gas attacks, the broken bones inflicted by the Israelis in an effort to stifle the uprising have had the opposite effect. They have instilled a sense of defiance among Palestinians, and in some, a desire for revenge.

Also evident is a new feeling of self-esteem among a people long treated as second-class citizens. By going to the barricades, by participating in the general strike, by demonstrating, they are asserting a newfound aggressiveness. And they are seeing results.

US Secretary of State George Shultz's peace mission to the Middle East was sparked by the violence. With elections both in the United States and Israel scheduled for this year, it is unlikely any peace-making efforts would have been undertaken

without the direct pressure of the mounting death toll and Israeli crackdown.

"They have recognised something about themselves," said Ron Verber, education director of the Golda Meir Association, a group that promotes Arab-Jewish co-existence.

"They look at themselves differently now," Verber said. "They see independence from Israel as something solid. They feel they can do something about it."

"A year ago, this feeling didn't exist. From that point of view, it is the point of no return. We will not be able to put things back the way they were before. They have made a statement," Verber said.

For years, inhabitants of the territories have looked for leadership to the Palestine Liberation Organisation, first in Lebanon, and now headquartered in Tunisia.

Palestinians here saw the situation as out of their hands, beyond their control. While encouraging a local leadership to keep in touch with the situation on the ground, the PLO sought to control the struggle from the outside, limiting the locals to a secondary role.

The PLO remains a potent force in the occupied lands. But what the uprising has taught local Palestinians is that they themselves can strike directly at the Israelis. They are no longer awed by the Israeli military might that for so long cowed them into submission on the strength of its image alone.

"The uprising has given us a sense of pride and a lack of fear," said Hammad, another West Bank villager. "We think we can control our future."

US presidential campaign

Reagan neutral in nomination battle

By Gene Gibbons

WASHINGTON, (Reuters): President Reagan is publicly staying above the battle for the 1988 Republican presidential nomination even though he appears to be rooting privately for Vice-President George Bush.

In this office, you're titular head of the party, so therefore you have to be neutral in a primary situation. But I would have to point out that George Bush as vice-president has been part of all that we've been doing," Reagan told the Washington Post in an interview last week.

That remark was the closest he has come to expressing a preference for a Republican candidate to succeed him. At 77, the oldest US president ever and limited by law to two four-year terms, Reagan is due to step down next January.

"As I understand it, he's pulling for Bush but the vice president has got to win it (the Republican nomination) on his own," said an official who asked not to be identified.

Republican strategist Eddie Mahé concurred: "I think he (Reagan) and Nancy are very appreciative of the loyalty Bush has shown over the past seven years but that won't influence their neutrality."

Neutrality

Political experts said Reagan's neutrality was dictated by political factors and a personal tradition of not intervening in his party's candidate selection process dating in his days as California governor in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

Reagan is the most popular US president in recent times and his endorsement would give Bush a tremendous boost.

One Reagan insider said it would be "inseparable" for Reagan to back Bush over his chief Republican rival, Senate minority leader Robert Dole.

Were he to do so, he would alienate a vital congressional ally and hurt the administration's legislative programme.

"We need Dole on Capitol Hill," the official said.

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Although Bush for president huttons are frequent sight at the White House, one official said Reagan and his top aides were "bending over backwards" to avoid any show of favouritism.

"The day after Iowa (the first contest of the presidential race which Bush lost badly), there was some talk at the senior staff meeting about the size of the turnout, but no discussion of the results," he said.

Dole, a Kansas Senator whose wife Elizabeth was Reagan's transportation secretary from 1983 to 1987, won in Iowa where he played down his ties to Reagan. He tried to exploit the president's popularity in the New Hampshire primary a week later — waving letters of thanks Reagan had sent for his work in pushing the president's programme in Capitol Hill.

Reagan said that when Papandreou and Oza! meet next at the Nato summit in Brussels in March they will approve programmes for two joint committees, one to deal with the thorny questions of the Aegean and Cyprus, and the other to study ways of increasing trade, tourism and other cooperative efforts.

Greece demands that Turkey withdraw its troops from northern Cyprus, which it invaded in 1974, and disputes Turkish claims in areas in the Aegean.

"These are real serious problems and they have to be discussed and both sides should show fairness and understanding

of an international economic seminar, surprised everyone by agreeing to embark on a full dialogue to improve their troubled relations.

"There was definitely positive electricity between the two leaders. There was a positive chemical reaction. This may have been one of the reasons that their meeting produced more than was expected," he said.

Analysts here said that Greece may have at one time regarded Oza! as a puppet of the Turkish military, but his recent political record and election victory had made them realise this was not the case.

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Akiman is Athens' busiest diplomat

By Granville Watts

ATHENS, (Reuters): The busiest diplomat in Athens these days is Turkish ambassador Nazmi Akiman who has played a key role in a blossoming rapprochement between Greece and Turkey.

It was 58-year-old Akiman, a respected poet as well as a diplomat, who rushed in talk with Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou when the two countries came close to war over disputed rights in the Aegean Sea last March.

"We were at the very brink of war. We had a real crisis. Possibly this had a traumatic effect on both sides," he told Reuters in an interview.

Since then Akiman has been seeing Papandreou regularly, passing on messages to and from Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Oza! which resulted in a fruitful Papandreou-Oza! meeting at Davos, Switzerland, last month.

"Davos was the culminating point of ideas which emerged from both sides that we should get together and solve our problems in a peaceful way," he said.

Akiman said Papandreou and Oza! were supposed to meet on a limited basis on the fringes



Akiman

towards each other," Akiman said.

The quietly-spoken ambassador added that he was also making arrangements for a visit by Oza! to Athens tentatively set for between June 5 and 7 — the first by a Turkish Prime Minister for 36 years.

"It really is remarkable, nobody could have foreseen such a thing a few months ago," Akiman said.

Akiman, trained as a lawyer and educated in the United States, turns to poetry as a relaxation from his heavy diplomatic load.

A book of Turkish poems about love and nostalgia called "As If Sprinkling Water," was recently translated into Greek.

The diplomat, who has served in Athens for four years, smiled when it was suggested that the former enemies were now behaving like lovers with both leaders complimenting each other in published letters.

Invoking religion to fight AIDS

debate.

In the West, AIDS is spread largely through homosexual contact and intravenous drug injections with shared needles. For reasons that are still not clearly understood, heterosexual contact is mostly responsible in Africa, where some of the highest concentrations of the disease are found.

Until recently, AIDS was not even regarded as a problem in the Middle East. But after cases cropped up nearly everywhere, largely blamed on imports of HIV infected blood, the wall of silence began to crumble.

Report

"We are past the denial stage," says Wahdan. "Not a single country denied it is a problem. But some still do not want to report their cases."

At the Kuwait conference, sponsored by WHO and the Kuwaiti government, Saudi Arabia, Oman and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) refused to disclose how many cases they had.

Two cases in Saudi Arabia have been reported by an American medical journal, while a health official in the UAE cited 22 AIDS deaths there last year in a press statement subsequently denied by the country's health minister.

Even when states report the number of cases, they may not be telling the truth about the causes, Wahdan said.

Tunisia has the Arab world's highest number of reported cases at 19, while Kuwait has declared 15 HIV carriers. Turkey (21), Sudan (12) and Qatar (nine) also have relatively high totals of AIDS cases.

Despite the nearby presence of an estimated three to four million heterosexual HIV carriers in Africa, "AIDS is still tied up in people's minds with homosex-

uality and this has been a real problem in talking openly about the disease," says Wahdan.

The openly gay identity that spawned hockeys sex bars and bath houses in the West in the 1970s is generally rare and legally and socially inadmissible.

Homosexuality is punishable by death in Iran and Iraq. In Kuwait the maximum sentence is five years, compared to ten for adultery.

A potentially more serious threat could be transmission of AIDS through prostitutes, common in Africa and apparently emerging in other parts of Asia, health experts say.

Last summer, as thousands of wealthy young Gulf Arabs left on annual holidays abroad, Kuwaiti and UAE authorities handed out AIDS pamphlets at airports to warn against immoral contacts.

Officials say most of the sexually transmitted AIDS cases in the region were contracted abroad.

Tunisia has advised sexually active youth to use condoms, which block HIV transmission through semen. But most Islamic states, particularly in the Gulf, shun this approach as too provocative.

"Until a few years ago condoms could not be advertised even in the US or Britain," said Kazem Bebbani, director of a WHO regional AIDS centre in Kuwait. "We have to educate people according to their social set-up and structure. There are certain things that cannot be said."

Prevention

Saudi Arabia plans to begin talking more about AIDS in the media. Kuwait will make a lecture on AIDS mandatory in school. In both, the stress will be on prevention through moral conduct, officials said.

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Homosexuality is punishable by death in Iran and Iraq. In Kuwait the maximum sentence is five years, compared to ten for adultery.

A potentially more serious threat could be transmission of AIDS through prostitutes, common in Africa and apparently emerging in other parts of Asia, health experts say.

Last summer, as thousands of wealthy young Gulf Arabs left on annual holidays abroad, Kuwaiti and UAE authorities handed out AIDS pamphlets at airports to warn against immoral contacts.

Officials say most of the sexually transmitted AIDS cases in the region were contracted abroad.

Tunisia has advised sexually active youth to use condoms, which block HIV transmission through semen. But most Islamic states, particularly in the Gulf, shun this approach as too provocative.

"Until a few years ago condoms could not be advertised even in the US or Britain," said Kazem Bebbani, director of a WHO regional AIDS centre in Kuwait. "We have to educate people according to their social set-up and structure. There are certain things that cannot be said."

Prevention

Saudi Arabia plans to begin talking more about AIDS in the media. Kuwait will make a lecture on AIDS mandatory in school. In both, the stress will be on prevention through moral conduct, officials said.

Two cases in Saudi Arabia have been reported by an American medical journal, while a health official in the UAE cited 22 AIDS deaths there last year in a press statement subsequently denied by the country's health minister.

Even when states report the number of cases, they may not be telling the truth about the causes, Wahdan said.

Tunisia has the Arab world's highest number of reported cases at 19, while Kuwait has declared 15 HIV carriers. Turkey (21), Sudan (12) and Qatar (nine) also have relatively high totals of AIDS cases.

Despite the nearby presence of an estimated three to four million heterosexual HIV carriers in Africa, "AIDS is still tied up in people's minds with homosex-

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Critics slam Shere Hite's latest bombshell

Sheer truth or Shere hype?

The 'Hite Report on Women and Love,' the culmination of the Hite trilogy on sexuality has caused the expected furor. Critics have questioned both her research and her findings, but the author believes that the attacks on her methods have been launched entirely by men in order to conjure up a 'smoke-screen to obscure the 'real' issues raised by her book.

By Victoria McKee

TWO burly minders, in the guise of doorman and superintendent, bar the entrance to Shere Hite's duplex on Central Park South in New York. In side, the "internationally recognised cultural historian and researcher" as the book jacket of the latest Hite Report describes her, lives in a roccoco fantasy of frescoed and ornately stuccoed ceilings, oak-paneled walls inset with brocade, shimmering sofas, gilded mirrors and candelabras. One corner contains Hite's huge, cluttered desk, but the focal point of the vast room is the grand piano, decked with gladioli, which belongs to her husband of three years, the German pianist Friedrich Horricke.

"There's not much room for Fred's stuff, I'm afraid, with all of mine," Hite apologises.

The theatrical setting, both home and headquarters of Hite Research, the company under which she carries out the research for her books, provides the perfect backdrop for Hite's dramatic pre-Raphaelite looks — wavy golden hair, pale eyes and skin set off by dark painted lips. Restless fingers taper to blood red nails.

Hite is still reeling from the controversy that has surrounded her latest book, *The Hite Report on Women and Love*, the culmination of the Hite Report trilogy on sexuality, the first of which (on female sexuality) was published in 1976; the second, (on male sexuality) in 1981. Critics have questioned both her research (she sent out 100,000 questionnaires and returned 45,000) and her findings — for example, that 98 per cent of the women desired fundamental changes in their marriages — can be considered representative of American women.

Believes

Hite believes that the attacks on her methods have been launched almost entirely by men in order to conjure up a 'smoke screen to obscure the 'real' issues raised by her book. Her survey discovered, she points out, that women are frustrated in their relationship with men, "not that women are unhappy, which is quite different".

"It's not true that there's been a mass uprising of academics and sociologists saying that my work is lousy," Hite says. "Time magazine started the whole thing with a cover story saying that women were fed up and men were to blame according to my report — before it was even off the presses."

These second attack came from ABC News and the Washington Post. "How do they conduct their polls?" Hite asks. "There are a million studies produced every day and I've never seen one taken apart like this one."

The Des Moines Register was also hostile. "Was their low, caucasian any more representative?"

The targeting of a "sup-

posedly" representative sample of the population was an option that was closed to her, Hite stresses, as only by being ignorant of their names could she guarantee her respondents the anonymity they needed to answer 180 intimate questions, "so that if they did have extramarital sex, they could be sure their husbands would never know". So she sent questionnaires out to "places where women congregate", and hoped they would want to participate.

Finally, in response to her critics, "I said: OK, if you don't want to think of it as representative, fine. Just think of these 4,500 women and maybe you've known a few women who've said the same things to you — that they wish men would talk more, or wouldn't put them down." Her survey may not be perfect, she concedes, "but it is the best there is".

Women and Love, the culmination of a seven-year study of her samples' responses is subtitled "A cultural revolution in progress," and she would like it to be seen as revolutionary in a very literal sense. "Of course it's political," she says. "Relationships are a microcosm of society. There is a line in the book saying that 'most women meet the system every day in the faces of men they love'. Two cultures have grown up over the years and are in conflict inside the home. By trying to get men to be less aggressive, less combative and more loving, women are waging, on a one-to-one level, a battle which is also the battle for society."

Hite is not sure that her critics understand this. "If they understand that it's not just a critique of relationships but one of society, and are really angry at it and attacking me in all these ways — including character assassination — for that reason, then I'm flattered. But if they're doing it because they're stupid fools, upset that women might not be happy with them, then I say I'm moving to Afghanistan."

Criticism

In the survey, 70 per cent of women who had been married for more than five years said they were having extramarital affairs, although almost all believed in monogamy and believed their husbands to be faithful; 91 per cent of those who had divorced said that they made the decision to divorce, not their husbands — and not because of adultery or an unsatisfying sex life but because of a sense of emotional isolation in the marriage.

"You would think men would want to know why most divorces are brought by women — they should be glad to understand what's going on," Hite suggests. But men seldom buy her books, she adds scornfully. "Women just underline the parts they find most relevant and give them to men to read."

She likens the criticism she has received to the subtle psychological undermining that the women in her study describe. "It's just like at home, this is the same thing on a larger scale — men using disparaging



Shere Hite: survey may not be perfect but it's the best there is.

stereotypes and being condescending. They are saying: 'Who are you, some kind of weird person? And who are these 4,500 weird women and who want to read this boring book anyway?'

The previous night a meeting had been held to form a Shere Hite Defence Committee. Gloria Steinem, Kate Millet and other leading feminists have already signed a statement in her support, she says.

"If your research is attacked, you are attacked; but we decided to talk not only about me, but about the general treatment of women in the media — and to try to monitor the sort of things that are going on."

On the front-page newspaper headlines of Raisa Gorbachev and Nancy Reagan are to her a prime example of the trivialisation of women that the new committee intends to tackle.

Readers of *Women and Love* may disagree with some of Hite's subjective analyses, skip over the lengthy chapters on lesbianism and balk at the suggestion of "a militaristic strategy" or even an "ideological revolution", and decide, like her American critics, to take the statistics with a pinch of salt. But Hite feels sure that the words of the 4,500 women will make compelling reading.

The goddess Diana illustrates her latest book cover, Hite says, "because she was called the virgin goddess — not because she didn't have sex, but because nobody owned her. Many of the women in the book would not call themselves feminists, but they have pride and they are struggling in their private lives for some sort of respect. One of the purposes of this book was to show the women fighting these battles that they aren't alone."

Will there be a fourth Hite Report? Hite smiles. "We should all be thinking where we want to go from this point — and that's what I'm trying to decide. But I think I might do a fictional thing now."

The Hite Report on Women and Love (Viking, £14.95).

Talent of half the human race is being wasted

Depressing tales on women's education

By Catherine Foster

HOLYOKE, Mass.: The talent of half the human race is being wasted — that was the message at a conference of women's education sponsored by Mount Holyoke College. Fifty women from all over the world converged on this leaf-strewn college for women in the first major international gathering of women since the 1985 conference in Nairobi, Kenya, that marked the end of the Decade of Women. The conference was held as part of Mount Holyoke's 150th anniversary celebration.

The delegates represented top thinkers and activists from 21 countries. Included were legislators from England, Egypt, France, Mexico, and the Philippines, as well as educators, government workers, and representatives of women's groups. Many said that women's education is caught in a complex web of entrenched problems including foreign debt loads that draw money away from education; lack of trained teachers; vestiges of colonial education; and development programmes that ignore women's economic role.

While many of these problems affect men's education as well, women also have to contend with traditional attitudes toward their capabilities and place in society. Delegates from every part of the globe had troubling tales to tell.

Only 13 per cent of girls in

... in Pakistan there are hardly any schools for girls. When there are schools, there are no teachers. When there are teachers, there are no textbooks. When there are textbooks, the rains halt school.

Muslim Pakistan go to school, says Khawar Mumtaz, founder of the Women's Action Forum. "There are hardly any schools for girls. When there are schools, there are no teachers. When there are teachers, there are no textbooks. When there are textbooks, the rains halt school."

In India, where co-education is compulsory until age 15, only 20 per cent of girls stay in school that long, says Neera Desai, professor emerita and honorary director of the Research Centre for Women's Studies in Bombay. Many are kept at home because the families need them.

Problem

In Zimbabwe, menstruating girls may stay out of school for a week, says Fay Chung, chief education officer in the Ministry of Education. And some teachers, she says, compound the problem with their attitude that schooling is a "train" that doesn't wait for those who miss classes. As a result girls fall far behind and drop out. Dr Chung's office is working on making low-cost physical protection available as well as counteracting the view of menstruation as debilitating.

In many other countries,

girls are not so much dropouts as they are left out — forced by early marriages and pregnancies from continuing school. In Pakistan, says Dr Mumtaz, it is a crime for girls to get pregnant before they are married. Consequently, most girls marry at 15. And when girls leave school at an early age, they often revert to illiteracy.

In India, says Dr Desai, "High-caste parents say, 'Why waste time and money on a girl when she will learn big ideas that will get her beaten up by her husband?' But the cleaning lady takes great pains to see that her daughter will get educated."

Even in first-world countries, education for women needs improvement. Shirley Williams, co-founder and president of the Social Democratic Party in Britain, pointed out results of a study that showed that more home computers were purchased for boys than for girls and that boys spent 13 times more time at computers than girls. At school, she said, they "used their physical and vocal dominance to get the lion's share of time at the computer."

Many viewed with alarm the increasing tendency to use the

mass media as an educational tool, because it takes teaching out of the hands of teachers, can be used for ideological purposes, and because of the "hidden curriculum" of sexism, as one delegate from Kenya put it. "Look at the mistakes made in the West. We must make sure the media is supportive of the values we want to convey to our children."

Many speakers said that formal education had not "delivered the goods": provided universal and appropriate education. And they looked to informal education to fill the gaps. "We need to be concerned about the context of education," said Eddah Gachukia, a consultant on population education for UNESCO, in Nairobi, Kenya.

"In some cases, simple scientific knowledge that helps food producers develop better products and know how to take care of a sick cow can be a first step. Then we can add other types of knowledge."

There were some glimmers of progress. In Britain, "girls are now doing as well as and in some cases better than boys leaving examinations," says Tessa Blackstone, Master of Birkbeck College, University of London. "In higher education, the proportion of women going on has risen dramatically in the last 25 years."

Dr Gachukia said that Kenya President Daniel Arap Moi has publicly supported education of girls. 1988, The Christian Science Monitor.

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New tests for probing infertility

By Larry Doyle

CHICAGO, (UPI): Every year, thousands of women who are unable to get pregnant undergo a \$5,000 operation to find out if their fallopian tubes are blocked.

About a third to one-half the time, tubes are clear. The exploratory surgery was unnecessary.

"No one wants to undergo surgery when they don't have to," says Dr Amy Thurmond, of Oregon Health Sciences University in Portland. "But couples who want children will often try anything."

Their options may have gotten significantly better. Thurmond and her colleagues in the department of radiology have developed a non-surgical diagnostic technique that not only accurately detects tubal obstructions, but in some cases, may clear minor blockages

without the need for surgery.

The procedure also only costs from \$200 to \$400.

"At the very least, this is going to help us avoid 30 to 50 per cent of unnecessary surgery," Thurmond says. "It may even replace some surgery, but we're going to have to wait and see about that."

With an estimated one in seven couples facing fertility problems, the new technique promises cost savings of millions of dollars, "not to mention the savings in pain and anxiety," Thurmond says.

About 40 per cent of infertility problems are solely female in origin, and up to half of those are caused by obstructions or scarring in the fallopian tubes, two thin passageways that conduct the egg from the ovaries to the womb.

Typically, when a couple goes to the doctor with infertility problems, the woman will undergo a hysterosalpin-

gogram, in which a contrast dye is injected into the cervix and X-rays are taken. The resulting image provides a decent picture of the fallopian tubes, Thurmond says, but often indicates a blockage where none exists.

Surgery, and three days in the hospital, frequently follow.

However, Thurmond and Dr Josef Rosch, director of interventional radiology at Oregon, recently told an international meeting of radiologists about a variation on the hysterosalpingogram that provides far better results, and may even have a therapeutic effect.

Rather than injecting dye into the cervix, the researchers delivered it directly into the fallopian tubes using a small catheter threaded through the uterus. This provides a "nearly perfect" view of the fallopian structure and any possible blockage, Thurmond says.

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The Fairway to Fashion

By Kathy Cuddihy

Getting even



I REMEMBER when I was a kid that I thought parenthood had to be the greatest power trip ever. Adults could get pushed around by other adults, government rulers needed the support of their people, but parents...they were top boss. They laid down the law and that law was obeyed to the letter — or else. What's more, they had a ready source of cheap, non-union labour constantly at their beck and call. No wonder so many people chose to become parents.

Then I became a parent myself. And I swear that someone saw me coming and changed all the rules. I may be "top" boss, but that's only because I'm taller... for the moment. Although mine is supposed to be the Final Word, practice too often proven itself far removed from the theoretical niceties. Finally, in our house, instantly available, cheap, non-union labour is just a wishful thought to a beleaguered mother's muddled mind.

It didn't take me long to learn that parents are actually the helpless victims of their children. Obligation firmly ties their hands behind their backs. After all, parents have the duty of setting good example, and if that doesn't cramp a parent's style, nothing does. Any inclination to really get even, by necessity must fall by the wayside. Instead, we dish out unimaginative, clichéd punishments which offer us little sense of satisfaction. Worse, experience shows that these punitive measures do almost nothing to deter the inevitable pattern of youth.

I can already hear some of you childless readers asking why any loving parent would want to "get even" with an innocent child. First of all, let me state categorically that there is no such thing as a truly innocent child. Despite their lack of mileage, those pint-sized

rascals come equipped with well-honed instincts on how to endure and outwit adults. Just like parents soon develop an irrepressible urge to "get even." Face it, wouldn't at least a mild yearning for retaliation come to your mind in the following circumstance: you are a conscientious mother who makes sure your children have a good breakfast before going to school each morning. Then one day the teacher conducts a survey on nutrition and asks everyone what they had for breakfast.

"Leftover pizza, some potato chips, and a Pepsi," volunteers your imaginative

child. In a shocked voice you ask your "innocent" child what on earth made him say such a thing.

"I just wanted to make the other kids jealous," Charming. Feel like getting even yet? No? Well, try this one.

All good parents teach their children honesty. What they forget to teach... or find it impossible to convey... is the art of diplomacy. You know what I mean: having the talent to bend the truth just slightly so no one has their feelings hurt. If my children learned all the lessons of growing up as successfully as they have absorbed the policy of honesty, they would

be model citizens. As it is, their wealth of honesty at times leaves me socially impoverished. A prime example is the time one of my little wags announced righteously, "I cannot tell a lie. I can't stand it when other people tell lies, either. Especially my parents."

"That's very commendable, dear," came my cautious reply. "Now suppose you just come right to the point and tell me exactly what you're getting at."

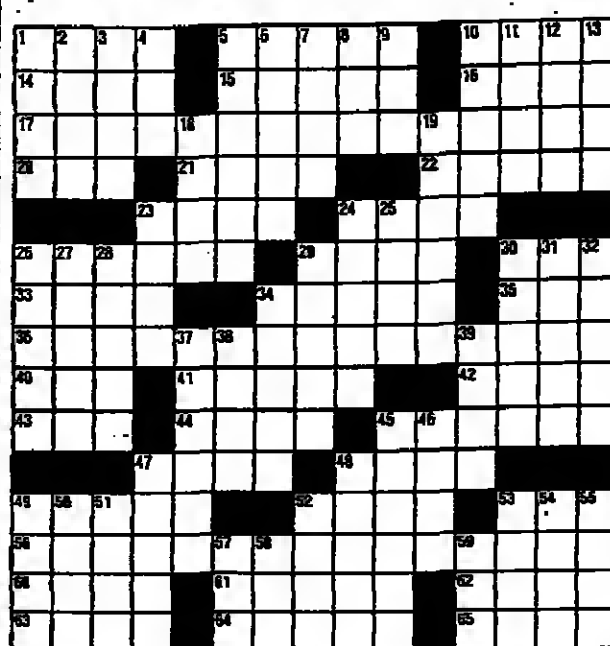
"I felt I had to tell Mrs Crocker that the real reason you and Dad can't go to her house for dinner is because her cooking is so bad you were sick for a week the last time you ate there."

Clunk. There goes my reputation and community standing in one mighty swoop. Whoever said honesty pays must have been using foreign currency.

Let's face it, kids have an inherent ability to induce varying degrees of humiliation with an "innocence" and swiftness that occasionally staggers the imagination. Of course, they don't always choose dramatic methods of embarrassing their parents. The casually shouted comment, "It's OK, Mom, you don't have to spend your money buying lunch bags. I got a whole bunch at the check-out counter," might go ignored by a stroller-strapped mother. Then again, if this same mother is shopping with a group of friends to whom she has confided that she will have to enact drastic measures to clear her overdraft, the incident takes on a whole new dimension.

See what I mean? Arco's these examples more than enough justification for getting even? Yes. Unfortunately, I'm seldom clever enough to beat my children at their own game. I guess that's why parents usually resort to the less satisfactory alternative: getting mad. But I still can't help but suspect that a little sweet vengeance, skillfully dealt, might go a long way.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Hall of the ancient Irish kings
 - Chap
 - Give forth
 - March date
 - Lubricated
 - Strange Comb. form
 - Retail outlet
 - USNA grad.
 - Summers, along the Riviera
 - Pulled
 - Blanc and Torme
 - Sandburg or Sagan
 - Coda, for one
 - GWTW word
 - Satchel
 - River to the Fulda
 - Heather genus
 - Ship's course
 - Retail outlets
 - tee-tung
 - Roman date
 - Author Harle
 - Urban transports
 - Spee
 - "Back to — one"
 - Legumes
 - Close
 - Fill with dismay
 - Kirgiz mountain range
 - Manger occupant?
 - Retail outlets
 - Novelist Emile
- DOWN**
- Time follower
 - Gulf of —
 - Agts.
 - rule
 - Flask
 - Citrus fruits
 - Bullying cheers
 - Murray or Kesey
 - Summer time, in Fla.
 - Laud
 - Felina sound
 - Regarding
 - the line
 - Rim pool
 - Rill
 - Artist Chagall
 - Spring parts
 - Ending with convey
 - fatale
 - Utopian
 - Nemesakes of Wolfe, the sleuth
 - Bereavement
 - Baseball's Yogi
 - Flower
 - "Beau —"
 - Wren novel
 - Lab burners
 - San —, Texas

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ 8762 ♥ 72 ♦ 952 ♣ AJ72
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 NT Pass ?
What action do you take?

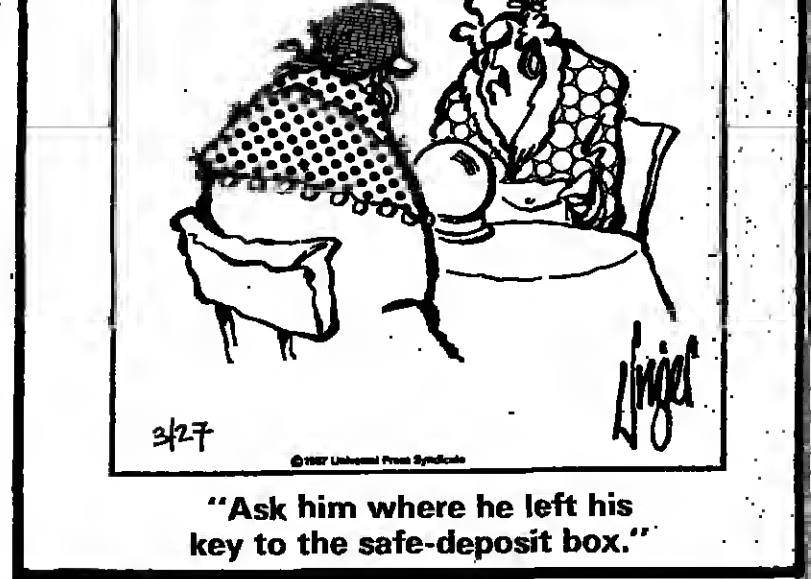
Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ Q76 ♥ 95 ♦ K1076532 ♣ 8
Partner opens the bidding with three no trump. What action do you take?

Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ Q76 ♥ 95 ♦ K1076532 ♣ 8
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 NT Pass ?
What action do you take?

Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ A5 ♥ AQ87632 ♦ 7 ♣ J92
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ Q5 ♥ AKQ10943 ♦ AQ6 ♣ 5
Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one diamond. What do you bid now?

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ QJ9 ♥ KQ1096 ♦ QJ8 ♣ 63
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?



"Ask him where he left his key to the safe-deposit box."

By Charles Oulton

Priests and the good life



Ram Prakash Verma, a Hindu priest in Southall, London, is leading a campaign against 'unholy' priests such as Sharma (right) who are seduced by British secular cash.



Sharma (right) who are seduced by British secular cash.

HINDU leaders in Britain fear their priests have become so seduced by the good life in the West that they are now asking the Home Office to send them back after a year if they don't seem holy enough.

As part of a campaign to bar those priests with an eye for material rather than spiritual gain, the country's largest Hindu temples are asking ministers to help it restrict jobs to those who genuinely want to serve the country's 53 temples.

The campaign is being led by Ram Prakash Verma, general secretary of the Vishnu Hindu Temple in Southall, west London, the spiritual home of 3,000 Hindus.

He claims that many Indian priests who accept invitations to work in Britain have either already decided they will quickly take another job or decide to do so after seeing how much money other people earn.

Proposals Under Verma's proposals, the priest would have to demonstrate that he had remained unaffected by Britain's materialistic values and was content with his income from the temple, which in most cases comes on top of board and lodging.

As long as he could persuade the temple's management that he remained fit to continue duties, it would apply to the Home Office for an extension to his permit. At present, the priest applies himself and will normally receive an extension after the first year, as long as he remains a priest.

To support his claims that

priests fall prey to temptations of Western living, Verma cites the case of an Indian graduate who became his head priest but then resigned in a row over money.

Ravi Dutt Sharma left last July after three years at the temple and is now an insurance consultant. Although he still conducts marriage ceremonies in his spare time, he now leads a life very different from the one he followed when he came to Britain in 1984.

Verma says Sharma was "very priestly" when he arrived and seemed to enjoy the work at the temple. However, though his weekly income was increased from £40 to £100 in three years, he resented having to pay £10 a

week towards the air ticket he was given when he first came to Britain and resigned.

Verma said: "He was very angry about the deductions but I think there was another reason behind his resignation. Mr Verma has the impression that priests should always be poor and I don't agree with that."

Angered Sharma, who now lives with his wife in a three-bedroom house in Hayes, Middlesex, refused his charge. He said his insurance job paid him no more than he earned at the temple.

However, he said he was angered by what he called the exploitation of other priests at

the temple who had to work more than 60 hours a week for wages as low as £40.

He said: "I loved the temple and was very sorry to leave it but I had to make my protest. Nurses can do it so why not priests? Mr Verma has the impression that priests should always be poor and I don't agree with that."

But Verma's view that some priests come to Britain with ulterior motives is shared by Akhandadhi Das, the principal of Bhakti Vedanta Manor, Britain's only college for the training of Hindu priests.

He said: "Almost all the 100 priests who work at the temples come from India and that causes problems."

Reform school for wayward elephants

By Ruth Youngblood

WAY KAMBAS, Indonesia (UPI)—Argo, 12, was once considered an incorrigible delinquent who smashed houses, flattened villages and trampled crops. Now he's turned over a new leaf and is the pride of a reform school for wayward elephants.

"He has a whole new life," said trainer Didik, 19, who was given a dislocated ankle and numerous bruises while civilising the unruly pachyderm. Argo now performs tricks and gives rides to children.

Like many delinquent children, Argo's wild youth can be blamed on a bad home situation and unsavoury companions.

"The elephants became victims of progress, with the forests which sheltered them gradually cleared to make way for farmers," said conservation chief Widodo.

The island of Sumatra, 140 miles (225 km) northwest of crowded Jakarta, is home to an estimated 2,000 wild elephants, but its lack of population and its rich soil have lured farmers from all over Indonesia.

With new arrivals usurping the elephant's traditional food grounds, the herds soon cultivated a taste for the crops of bananas, sugar cane, cloves, rice, coconuts and soyabeans.

Exploding dynamite and buzzing helicopters of Western oil companies exploring Sumatra also frightened the elephants.

Sampering in groups sometimes numbering in the hundreds, elephants invaded farms, wiping out harvests and homes — and sometimes the farmers. Hordes trampled through one settlement after another.

So far 16 people, including several children, have died, either picked up by powerful trunks and heaved aside or crushed to death.

Killing elephants has been banned in Indonesia since 1951 to protect them from ivory poachers, so villagers tried to drive the beasts away with fire, poles, firecrackers, drums, gongs and blasting music. Nothing worked.

"That's when people came to us for help," Widodo said. "They were angry that it was a crime to harm the elephants when their livelihoods and lives

were at stake."

At Way Kambas, Widodo said, the animals are prepared for new careers in entertainment, logging and farming.

He pointed to elephants frolicking in the river and others practicing halancing, acrobatics, precision marching and pirouettes. "On special occasions all 42 elephants at the school play soccer."

They're also taught such practical skills as clearing logs to jungle areas and bauling produce. But Widodo said he is more interested in bringing them to carnivals and circuses to amuse people, and possibly change the negative image the huge beasts have in Indonesia.

"Indonesians cringe at the mere thought of elephants, associating them with devastation and even death," he said. "These lovable animals are suffering from a bad image."

With no real experience in capturing wild elephants, Widodo turned to Thailand — which has long experience in training elephants for the logging industry — when his own efforts at arrest got nowhere.

Officials purchased two well-mannered bulls and tranquilizer guns and convinced

five experienced Thai trainers to pass on their techniques. Roundups went far more smoothly thereafter.

Once calm, the elephants ambled into the trucks for the trip to Way Kambas and schooling in rehabilitation which started in 1985.

Tethered to a tree with its legs in chains, the new comer soon learns he is totally dependent on his trainer for food, jaunts to the river for baths and special treats of sugar cane and bananas.

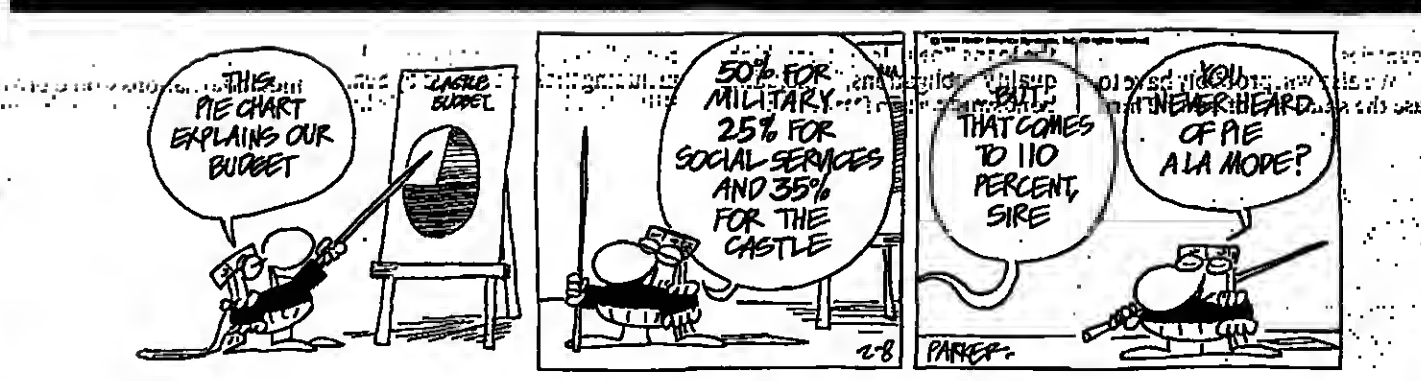
Since elephants are uncomfortable in heat and need to wallow or rest during midday hours, classes take place in the morning and late afternoon.

The first lesson involves learning to lift a front leg on command. The order is given, the elephant's leg is tapped with a stick and lavish praise and patting follows the slightest inclination toward the right move.

Thai elephants are available for demonstrations. The same technique is used to induce the learners to walk when led, sit down and finally permit a rider — something which takes six months of persuasion.

THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You will have good reason to be satisfied that you should not be complacent. You will use easily so get the important things done first. Take somewhat better care of your health. Be indulgent.

Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You will be tempted to spend more than you can afford and should avoid doing so. There is no reason why you should lose faith in yourself. Make sure you do not ignore good advice. Be sensible.

Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

You should do your best to avoid getting into a rut. You will have something to look forward to only do not spoil it. You must avoid any temptation to exceed speed limits. Be reasonable.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

You will be better able to cope with your personal affairs. You should not make a nuisance of yourself. Try to ensure you get sufficient time to relax. Be reliable.

Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You will find it easier to make up your mind. You should try not to be too rigid. A little more patience is what is needed right now. Be tactful.

Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

You should concentrate on proceeding with what you have in hand. You should keep your eyes open for new developments and should not oppose them. Try to enjoy what you are doing. Be cordial.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You will be able to make good progress, but only if you work hard. Nor should you permit yourself to be distracted. A good opportunity could easily be missed. Be tactful.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You will feel a little more restless and nervous. Avoid doing anything that would entail taking a great deal of risk just now. Make sure you do not make your partner feel neglected. Be more patient.

Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

This is going to be quite an exciting day for you, so try to keep calm and collected. And do your utmost not to lose your temper. Make sure you stay on good terms with your friends and colleagues. Be moderate.

Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

There will be some moments of confusion but you will be able to avoid serious complications. You should not take anything for granted just now. Remember that only practice makes perfect. Be considerate.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

You will have to stay calm if you want to deal with a rather tricky person. You should endeavour not to be boring. Try to keep things a little more simple. Be sincere.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

You should not allow your imagination to run away with you. You are liable to mistake something of little importance for something that is of great importance so beware. Do not exaggerate. Be resolute.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

World Bank official sees reduction of debt crisis

WASHINGTON, March 1. (Reuters) A senior World Bank official, unveiling the agency's earnings for the first six months of its financial year, said that all signs pointed to a reduction in the debt crisis since it surfaced in 1982.

Senior Vice-President for Finance Ernest Stern said economic tensions had been reduced by a controversial debt initiative by US Treasury James Baker calling for an increase in lending by development and commercial banks.

"We think the fundamentals of the Baker plan were well thought out," told reporters at a luncheon on Monday. "A lot of countries have been helped by the plan," he added.

System
The bank said its net income for the six months ended December 31 increased to \$679 million from \$655 million in the period a year earlier.

Stern said he thought the local economic system was in better condition than it was six years ago. "In sum, I would say the global picture today as far as the debt problem is concerned is in better shape than it was."

Bonn likely to wipe off \$1.2b of aid repayments

BONN, March 1. (Reuters) West Germany is likely to wipe off about two billion marks (\$1.2 billion) in aid repayments from among the world's poorest countries, Development Aid Minister Hans Klein told the newspaper Bild.

In an interview published in the Bild today he implied that countries with communist governments would not benefit.

Klein said even hopelessly indebted countries had to be helped with cash and over the years Bonn had wiped off 42 billion marks (\$2.5 billion) of debts by some of the world's poorest countries.

"We also will probably have to ease the situation of some Third World states," he said. "This will mean a magnitude of more than two billion marks."

IMF chief warns other countries reluctant to lend money to US

WASHINGTON, March 1. (AP) People in other countries are becoming less willing to lend money to the United States, the head of the International Monetary Fund said today.

"I have looked at a very long historical set of figures," said Michel Camdessus, the fund's managing director.

He was speaking to a conference sponsored by the Overseas Development Council, a private study group concerned with problems of the Third World.

"There are no precedents. Each time similar imbalances have been reduced, it was through recession," Camdessus said. "Our latest projections suggest that, on present policies and exchange rates, the imbalances would still continue to be very large over the medium term."

In fact, for some time the growth of US debt has not been matched by the willingness of business people in other countries to lend more, Camdessus said.

He stressed "the risks that his portends for renewed disturbances in financial markets, for increased protectionist pressures, and for a weakening in global economic activity."

The US Congress Joint Economic Committee predicted that the United States' debt would reach about \$400 billion as of the end of 1987.

Process
Camdessus noted that the job of the fund is to help all 152 member countries in setting strategy that will make them grow. He suggested that for a long time US output must grow faster than spending and that countries with surpluses have to do the opposite.

He added that the process should take place without either a slow-down in business or increased inflation. He did not name the surplus countries, but Japan and West Germany in

ber, the Soviet Union said last year it would cut exports by seven per cent to help the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries limit the oversupply in the world market.

But the organisation itself exceeded its own output ceiling in recent months, industry sources say.

Analysts attributed record Soviet output to active drilling, a more efficient industry and greater use of gas instead of oil to meet domestic energy needs.

Development of the big Tengiz field north of the Caspian Sea helped offset declines in Siberian.

Output
Barry said early signs are that Soviet output and exports are holding up well and this could be another record year.

"There are no stories of shortages of Soviet oil coming into Western Europe," he said. "So far this year, the weather has been mild; helping output and sales. It looks like they can keep it up."

He said that, at this rate, the Soviet Union could probably meet output targets of 12.5

Four-fold increase in the country's refining capacity

Iraq tries to expand its oil export system

VIENNA, March 1. (Opecna) Iraq today celebrates the 15th anniversary of the success of the nationalisation of its oil industry which for the first time brought the country's natural resources under sovereign control.

The 1972 nationalisation of the Iraq Petroleum Company (IPC), which initially represented British, French and American interests, and, subsequently, that of its subsidiaries, provided the country with the first real opportunity of integrating its oil industry into the national economy.

The decision helped Iraq in planning production in accordance with the overall needs of the economy for foreign exchange, thereby sustainable and rapid growth.

Despite the existence of huge hydrocarbon resources, the large-scale commercial exploitation of oil in Iraq did not begin until 1927 with the drilling of the first well in the vast oilfield of "Baba Gurgur", near Kirkuk, northern Iraq.

Oil has played a crucial and

significant role in shaping the modern history of Iraq.

Under the British mandate, the issue of Iraq's independence was linked by the colonial power to the endorsement by the new national government of an utterly inequitable concession to the IPC.

Endorsed
The concession, which was endorsed by the government on March 14, 1925, originally covered the northern part of the country, but subsequently the entire country was conceded to the IPC through two subsidiaries.

The IPC shares were divided equally among four foreign companies, an ownership structure which meant that among Middle East oil producers, Iraq had to suffer the most because its oil resources lay in the hands of a group which later obtained separate concessions in the region and was, therefore, more interested in developing the new acquisitions than in promoting production in Iraq.

The policy of deliberate

neglect of the development of the country's oil reserves and production reached its peak during 1960s, especially after the revolution of July 17, 1968, which was a radical turning point in the history of Iraq, the Arab world and the international oil industry.

For the industry itself, nationalisation meant the steady development of the country's huge reserves, which the IPC had deliberately left undeveloped and expansion of the production capacity to a level commensurate with existing reserves, thereby raising production from 1.47 million bpd in 1972 to 3.79 million in 1979.

Iraq also took steps to expand the size and flexibility of its oil export system through new strategic pipelines and deep water terminals on the Gulf capable of handling ultra-large carriers.

Nationalisation and rational planning led to a four-fold increase in the country's refining capacity, as well as helping lay the foundation of a large-scale

petrochemical industry.

Nationalisation was not simply the culmination of a long confrontation between the government and the company but more essentially, that of a long and dedicated struggle to assert national sovereignty over this vital industry as a necessary condition for its integration into the national economy.

The historical event took place at a time when the oil producing countries as a whole were trying through negotiations with the oil companies to implement the principle of partial participation in the ownership of the operating companies.

Nationalisation changed the status of the relationship between host countries and operating companies with the result that the principle of full participation immediately replaced that of partial or gradual participation.

In the 16 years since nationalisation, Iraq has seen its oil resources almost doubled. During the period, Iraq's oil export capacity increased through the

extension of two pipelines — a 1.50 million bpd facility to the Mediterranean port of Ceyhan via Turkey and a 500,000 bpd line to the Red Sea port of Yanbu across Saudi Arabia. The present capacity of the line will be raised to about 1.62 million bpd after the completion of the second stage next year.

In an interview published last week in a Kuwaiti daily, President Saddam Hussein said the decision to diversify nationalisation when Syria and Lebanon more than doubled the transit fees for the pipeline linking Iraq's northern oilfields to Tripoli and Banias on the Mediterranean.

Hussein said Iraq built the pipelines on the basis of acquiring the option to export oil via the Gulf or the Mediterranean according to circumstances and in line with market movements.

"Now we have increased the capacity of the line across Turkey and we are expanding the capacity of the line across Saudi Arabia," Hussein said, adding that "the future is better than the past."

American Express chief proposes new solution for Third World debt

WASHINGTON, March 1. (AP) American Express chairman James A. Robinson III today suggested creation of a new international financial organisation to help the debt crisis of developing nations by buying their loans.

Robinson, in remarks prepared for a meeting of the overseas development council, said that the proposed organisation, which he named "the Institute of International Debt and Development," would buy outstanding Third World loans at a discount.

Loans
One possibility, he suggested, would be for the loans to be acquired at about 60 per cent of face value.

The organisation would then offer the banks which had held the loans "new, long-term, high-quality obligations," including bonds and certain forms of stock, Robinson suggested.

"I hope it (the proposal) will at least serve as a catalyst to start an

active dialogue," he said. He said new approaches were needed because "the risk of a debt crisis still bovers over the financial markets."

Under Robinson's proposal, the new organisation would oversee and manage many facets of refinancing of loans owed by Latin American and other developing nations.

Debt
Total Third World debt now stands at about \$1.2 trillion. However, Robinson's proposal would be targeted to some \$250 billion owed to commercial banks by developing country governments.

Because the plan involves purchase of outstanding loans at a discount, it would involve partial write-offs of the loans.

Such an approach has been a part of some previous proposals, including those advanced by Sen. Bill Bradley and Rep. John LaFalce, but long opposed by President Ronald Reagan's administration.

Instead, the administration favours a rival plan by Treasury Secretary James A. Baker III that calls for new lending to developing countries on a nation-by-nation basis, both by international organisations like the World Bank and by commercial banks.

But, Robinson said, "the case-by-case approach has bought time and set the stage for a solution. But many believe it has not helped the (developing country) debt problem get much better."

Robinson Long has been active in international financial matters and he had previously advanced earlier versions of his proposal for a new international debt agency.

He said the new agency should be a joint venture of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund and that major industrial nations would provide start-up capital for the organisation totalling about \$12.5 billion.

Under the existing formula by which the United States contributes 20 per cent to the funds of the IMF, this would result in a US share of about \$2.5 billion.

"The current strategy of case-by-case negotiations... has so far held a crisis at bay... but it has not brought with it adequate resources to support sustained growth in (developing) economies," Robinson said.

Mexico bond bids seen falling short of hopes

TOKYO, March 1. (Reuters) Mexico has received a disappointing \$6 billion to \$7 billion in bids under its debt-for-bonds offer. Japanese banking sources said today.

The Latin American country, which owes over \$100 billion in public and private debt, had hoped to receive \$10 billion in bids.

Adding to the disappointment, the sources said, was that a significant portion of the bids were made at terms Mexico might be reluctant to accept.

The debt plan, unveiled late last year, asked banks to swap part of their Mexican loans for new Mexican bonds backed by zero-coupon 20-year US treasury securities. Bids from banks were accepted up until Friday.

Bonds
The Japanese sources said there was a wide difference between some banks and Mexico over at what discount the planned bonds should be issued.

The Japanese bankers said average bids by international banks were estimated to be in the range of a 25 to 30 per cent discount. Mexican officials have previously said any bid with a discount of less than 30 per cent would be rejected.

"If Mexico rejects a discount

of less than 30 per cent, it can hardly issue as many bonds as it wants," said one banker.

Japanese banks accounted for more than 15 per cent of the bids international banks had made as of last Friday's deadline, the sources here said.

Twenty-eight Japanese banks have extended credit to Mexico and outstanding loans account for some 15 per cent of Mexico's total debts to commercial banks, the sources said.

Of the 28, most have agreed to participate in the debt-for-bonds swap and their bids were estimated to have totalled over \$1 billion, the sources said. Among the Japanese banks participating were the Industrial Bank of Japan, the long-term credit bank of Japan and seven trust banks, the sources added.

A long-term credit official said the banks had sent in \$200 million in bids but declined to say at what discount. Banking sources speculated that the Industrial Bank also made bids of around \$200 million. An Industrial Bank official said his bank made a "fairly big" amount of bids but declined to give specific figures.

Bids by the seven trust banks were estimated to have reached a little less than \$400 million, with an average discount demand of around 30 per cent, Trust-Bank sources said.

World Business Summary

Egyptian official sees new oil price crash

CAIRO, March 1. (Reuters) A top official of Egypt's state oil company predicted today that world oil prices would crash unless producers stopped giving customers special deals to sell oil on a flooded market.

Hammond Ayoub, deputy chairman of the Egyptian General Petroleum Corporation (EGPC), told Reuters: "It is no secret that some countries are making special reductions to their customers."

"Such an attitude is serious and it is better for the welfare of us all that these countries wake up before it is too late and they plunge everyone in a new crash similar to that of 1986." World prices slumped in 1986 to below \$10 a barrel, a disaster for Third World producers like Egypt depending on oil to earn their dollars. Ayoub declined to name the countries he said were making special deals or whether they belonged to Opec, the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

Non-Opec Egypt, blaming downward market trends, cut its oil prices by one dollar a barrel on Monday, pegging its benchmark Suez and Ras Bahar blends at \$14 until mid-March. It reduced prices by 90 cents a barrel on January 15. Ayoub, chairman of the EGPC price-setting committee, said crude prices edged higher on international spot markets over the past two days but would not reach the desired target. "Prices are still too low and I don't believe they will hit 1987 levels when they reached more than \$19 a barrel."

Ayoub said Egypt's oil policy remained clear and unchanged: "We sell with the prices we fix without going under the table." Egypt's production remained 870,000 barrels a day, of which a third was exported, he added.

Turkey and Iran agree to expand trade ties

TEHRAN, March 1. (Kuna) Turkey and Iran have agreed on extending an oil and gas pipeline and stepped up the bilateral volume of trade to \$1.8 billion, Turkish Premier Turgut Ozal said today shortly before winding up an official visit and heading back home. In a statement to radio Tehran on the outcome of his visit, the third since he came to office, Ozal was quoted as saying he attended meetings of the sixth joint committee which passed two memoranda of understanding on the oil and gas pipeline and on the increase in volume of trade between the two countries.

Experts from the two countries will study feasibility of the project before work starts on the pipeline, he said.

Ozal said he also had talks with his Iranian host Mir Hossein Mousavi, Ayatollah Muntazeri and President Ali Khamenei on the Iraq-Iran war and other regional and international issues of mutual concern.

Ozal invited Mousavi to visit Turkey in the near future the radio said.

Oil price drop 'mystifying'

NICOSIA, March 1. (AP) Market watchers are mystified by the big drop in crude oil prices last week and tend to attribute it to overreaction, the Middle East Economic Survey review reported today. "Last week's market crash represents something of a puzzle because nothing has really changed in the fundamentals to warrant such reaction," said the respected Nicosia-based weekly oil newsletter. Prices fell by nearly \$1 a barrel last week and the newsletter said this meant in effect that some Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries members "are presently selling at over \$4 a barrel below official prices." The review said there is no solid evidence to support market rumours of a substantial surge in Opec production to 18 million barrels a day or more in February. It estimated that overall Opec crude production for the first three weeks of February was "no more than 17.5 million barrels per day and some major companies reckon it to be somewhat less than that, perhaps 17.2 million." Opec countries in general are adhering "more or less" to quotas established at the organisation's last ministerial meeting in Geneva last December. "The fly in the ointment could well be, however, that even 17.0-17.5 million barrels a day is too much, given weak demand due to the mild weather in major consuming areas and the substantial overhang of stocks from last year," the weekly added.

Record levels of Soviet oil output seen weighing on prices

LONDON, March 1. (Reuters) The Soviet Union produced peak volumes of oil in 1987 and may have sold more abroad than in any previous year, adding to a glut which has depressed prices to their lowest in 15 months, market analysts said today.

According to Petroleum Economics Ltd (PEL), a firm of consultants which tracks Soviet oil output, the Soviet Union produced the equivalent of 12.565 million barrels per day (bpd) in 1987.

That was well above target and about 150,000 bpd above the previous record set in 1983.

Provisional figures also showed that the Soviet Union, badly needing hard currency, probably boosted crude and oil products exports to the West above a previous 1984 peak of 60.2 million tonnes (about 1.2 million bpd), PEL said.

"Soviet exports and output were at a high and are set to zoom up again this year — and that's bad news for Opec," said Mike Barry of PEL.

Although not an Opec mem-

ber, the Soviet Union said last year it would cut exports by seven per cent to help the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries limit the oversupply in the world market.

But the organisation itself exceeded its own output ceiling in recent months, industry sources say.

Analysts attributed record Soviet output to active drilling, a more efficient industry and greater use of gas instead of oil to meet domestic energy needs. Development of the big Tengiz field north of the Caspian Sea helped offset declines in Siberian.

Output
Barry said early signs are that Soviet output and exports are holding up well and this could be another record year.

"There are no stories of shortages of Soviet oil coming into Western Europe," he said. "So far this year, the weather has been mild; helping output and sales. It looks like they can keep it up."

He said that, at this rate, the Soviet Union could probably meet output targets of 12.5

million bpd this year and 12.7 million in 1990.

Irene Himona, of stockbrokers Hoare Govett, said: "The Soviet Union is increasingly becoming important in oil exports, which is putting pressure on Opec. Their oil is essentially displacing Opec oil, which is putting strains on the organisation."

Discoveries
She added: "It has been a record year for Soviet exports and output and we feel the trend will continue."

She said it was reasonable to expect further big discoveries in coming years, adding that the new leadership had an ambitious development programme and had overcome many technical problems.

In addition, Moscow was restricting oil exports to the Eastern bloc which meant there was more available for the West.

"Russia is emerging as quite a significant force on the energy scene. It is essentially becoming the largest producer of primary energy and they have huge resources."



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LONDON (Alpha Stocks)			LONDON (Beta Stocks)		
NAME	LAST	CHG	NAME	LAST	CHG
ABEY LIFE	257.0		A.B. ELECT	369.0	370.0
ADT LTD	111.0		AMT NEW	248.0	248.0
ALD LYONS	368.0		APV PLC	130.0	131.0
ANSTRAD	159.0		AARONSON	118.0	118.0
ARGYLL GP	200.0		AAN HGL	275.0	276.0
ASDA MFI	172.0		ADDISON G	98.0	99.0
BAA PP	01.89		ADWEST GP	315.0	316.0
BAT INDS	432.0		ALEX WRK	176.0	175.0
BARCLAYS	495.0		ALLD IR B	214.0	215.0
BASS	820.0		ALLIANCE	804.0	807.0
BEAZER	203.0		ALLD COLL	127.0	128.0
BEECHAM	460.0		ALLD PLAN	52.0	53.0
BET ORD	245.0		AMAR PLC	168.0	169.0
BICC PLC	342.0		AMER TRUS	117.0	119.0
BLUE ARW	05.89		AMERSHAM	489.0	493.0
BLUE CIRC	428.0		ANGIA TV	428.0	428.0
BOC GP	395.0		ANSBACHER	68.0	68.0
BOOTS CO	220.0		AP-APP HOL	309.0	308.0
BR INDS	280.0		APPEYARD	309.0	370.0
BR COMM	295.0		ARPCOT	105.0	106.0
BR AIRWAY	170.4		ARNSTRONG	142.4	144.0
BR AEROSP	330.0		AQUAS. A.	80.0	81.0
BR GAS PP	133.0		ASHLEY L	116.0	116.0
B.P. NEW	250.0		ATWOODS	289.0	290.0
BR TELCOM	243.0		AUTO SEC	239.0	240.0
BRITOL	497.0		AVIS EUR	313.0	315.0
BUNZL	172.0		AVON RUBB	629.0	630.0
BURNHAM OL	495.0		BSG INTL	67.0	67.0
BURTON	244.0		BAILL JAP	478.0	478.0
CABLEWIR	350.0		BANKER IT	67.0	68.0
CADBURYS	269.0		BK OF SCO	570.0	572.0
CAISYS VTY	247.0		BARKER DO	151.0	152.0
CCM UNI	331.0		BARRY DEV	188.0	190.0
CCMS GOLD	810.0		B.WENHILL	155.0	156.0
COOKSONS	556.0		BEJAM GP	177.0	178.0
COURTAULD	316.0		BELHAVEN	45.0	45.0
DALGETY	297.0		BELLWAY	225.0	225.0
DEE CP	185.0		BENROSE	212.0	213.0
DIXONS	183.0		BENLOX HD	45.0	46.0
ENG CHINA	409.0		BHNETT +F	34.0	34.0
ENTER OIL	297.0		BENTALLS	130.0	130.0
FERRANTI	83.0		BESSEMER	300.0	300.0
FISONS	245.0		BKLEY WAT	24.0	25.0
GEN ACCID	888.0		BLK LIE 2	21.4	21.4
GEN ELEC	156.0		BOASE HAS	281.0	282.0
GLAXO	050.0		BOCKING	145.0	145.0
GRANADA	317.0		BOOKER PL	390.0	390.0
GLOBE	461.0		BORTHWICK	48.0	48.0
GRAND MET	148.0		BOATYER	365.0	366.0
GUS A	088.0		BOATWORPE	176.0	177.0
GUARD RYL	900.0		BRAHMER	222.0	223.0
GKN	322.0		BRENT CHE	131.0	132.0
GUINNESS	300.0		BRENT MCR	331.0	331.0
HMMERSH A	537.4		BRIDON	144.0	145.0
HANSON	139.0		BRITANNIA	013.0	010.0
HUKER SID	492.0		BR ASSETS	66.0	67.0
HILLSDOWN	285.0		BR-LND CO	271.0	271.0
			BR VITA	432.0	433.0

World Indices				
INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-OR	PREV-TR
FT 300 ORD	1439.1	1429.5	1423.7	1373.3
FT 500 ORD	0	998.5	1007.5	957.6
FT ALL SHR	0	8.08	7.47	870.22
FT GOV SEC	90.47	90.26	90.03	88.49
FT IND MIN	238.6	234.0	244.0	302.1
FT GOLDNES	0	413.19	418.0	450.65
FT OIL	0	1725.0	1716.6	1663.6
FT WLD DLR	124.79	123.55	123.55	115.04
FT WLD STG	104.32	103.81	103.81	90.79
FT WLD LOC	111.14	110.26	110.26	99.08

London Stock Market Report

UK SHARES STILL FIRM DESPITE LACKLUSTRE US OPENING

LONDON, MARCH 1, REUTER - EQUITIES CONTINUED FIRM IN LATE LONDON TRADING WITH A LACKLUSTRE OPENING ON THE U.S. MARKET HAVING LITTLE EFFECT ON SENTIMENT, DEALERS SAID.

HOWEVER, IN SPITE OF TODAY'S FIRM TONE DEALERS NOTED THAT VOLUME WAS STILL LIGHT AND THAT POINTED OUT A TENDENCY TO TAKE PROFITS. BY 1500 GMT A FAIRLY MODEST 290 M LN SHARES HAD BEEN TRADED.

PRICES WERE MARKED UP INITIALLY IN REACTION TO WALL STREET'S STRONG FOLLOW-UP MOVE YESTERDAY, BUT DEALERS SAID THERE WAS ONLY LIGHT FOLLOW-THROUGH INTEREST DURING THE MORNING. AT 1530 GMT THE FTSE 100 WAS UP A NET 13.9 POINTS AT 1,782.7.

YESTERDAY'S PERFORMANCE ON WALL STREET, WHERE THE DOW INDEX CLOSED AT ITS HIGHEST LEVEL SINCE THE OCTOBER CRASH, WAS THE MAIN PROMPT FOR TODAY'S RALLY. BUT MANY HERE ARE UNSURE OF THE FUTURE TREND ON THE U.S. MARKET AND ARE UNWILLING TO TAKE OUT LONG POSITIONS OF STOCK.

"WITH VOLUME SO THIN WE ARE BOUND TO FOLLOW WALL STREET'S LEAD SO ANY CHANGE IN DIRECTION THERE IS OF MAJOR SIGNIFICANCE TO THE LONDON MARKET", ONE TRADER SAID.

EQUITIES WERE ALSO HELPED BY AN APPARENTLY SATISFACTORY EXPLANATION OF YESTERDAY'S MUCH LARGER THAN EXPECTED U.K. JANUARY CURRENT ACCOUNT DEFICIT OF 905 M LN STG.

London Gold

LONDON, MARCH 1, REUTER - GOLD BULLION SAW EARLIER GAINS PAID SLIGHTLY AS PLATINUM SLIPPED OFF EARLIER FOUR WEEK HIGHS ON SOME PROFIT-TAKING, BUT BOTH METALS STILL CLOSED FIRMER.

PLATINUM SOARED TO A HIGH OF 482/483.50 DLS AN OUNCE SHORTLY AFTER HENRY OPENED. NEARLY 30 DLS ABOVE ITS PREVIOUS CLOSE OF 452.50/454.50, THE METAL DRIFTED BACK HOWEVER TO AN AFTERNOON FIX OF 478.50 AND CLOSE OF 476/477.50.

JAPANESE SELLING AND PROFIT-TAKING ON SHORT POSITIONS HAD SEEN OVERNIGHT GAINS ERODED DURING EARLY BUSINESS AND PLATINUM HAD A MORNING FIX OF 468.75. DEALERS SAID THERE WAS ALSO SOME PROFIT-TAKING ON THE PLATINUM/GOLD RATIO.

London Money Market

LONDON, MARCH 1, REUTER - U.K. MONEY RATES ENDED LITTLE CHANGED IN EXTREMELY QUIET TRADING, WITH ACTIVITY EXPECTED TO REMAIN DULL BEFORE THE MARCH 15 BUDGET, DEALERS SAID.

THERE WAS A SLIGHT SOFTENING AT THE SHORTER END BUT THIS ONLY TOOK RATES BACK TO THE LEVELS SEEN AHEAD OF YESTERDAY'S U.K. TRADE FIGURES.

THE FAILURE TO MOVE OUT OF THE RECENT TRADING RANGE AFTER NEWS OF A 905 M LN STG JANUARY U.K. CURRENT ACCOUNT DEFICIT HAS CONVINCED DEALERS THAT THE MARKET WILL BE STEADY AHEAD OF THE BUDGET. THE BASE RATE OUTLOOK MAY BE CLARIFIED BY THE BUDGET, BUT LITTLE MOVEMENT IS LIKELY BEFORE THEN, THEY SAID.

Foreign Exchange				
DLR	STG	DMK	FFR	OPEN
DLR	1.7730/60	1.6880/90	5.7160/90	NOON
STG	1.7720/30	2.9930/60	10.1330/1440	NOON
DMK	1.6855/6935	2.9903/001	29.46/62	FIX
FFR	5.7137/2525	10.1275/	338.21/850	FIX
SFR	1.3937/3947	2.4702/4733	82.49/59	24.35/39
NFL	1.8970	3.3610	112.255	33.1558
ECU	1.22326	0.689936	2.06584	6.99275
SDR	1.36101	0.748932	2.29783	7.77953
YEN	128.45/55	227.61/92		CLSE
SDR RATES	29/02/1988	OTHERS	01/03/1988	NOON

NEW YORK			MORGAN STANLEY CAPITAL INTERNATIONAL INDICES		
NAME	OPEN	MID-DAY	INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2
A.B. SCH CO	32.7	32.7	AUSTRALIA	245.4	242.5
ATLANTIC R	76.5	76.7	AUSTRIA	198.7	197.7
AAR CORP	21.3	21.5	BELGIUM	358.1	333.8
AETRA LIFE	47.6	47.0	CANADA	355.8	351.5
ALASKA AIR	17.4	17.4	DENMARK	370.0	368.8
ALCAN ALUM	28.1	28.1	FRANCE	315.0	316.6
ALCO STAND	24.7	24.7	GERMANY	169.7	169.0
AMER CYANA	49.0	48.4	HONG KONG	1725.9	1694.5
AM ELE PWR	28.3	28.3	FINLAND	101.0	101.0
AM NON PRO	78.4	78.3	ITALY	391.3	382.0
AM STORES	59.4	59.2	JAPAN	1224.2	1222.5
AMER T	29.3	29.3	HETLANDS	234.3	232.5
AMAX	18.0	18.0	NEW ZEAL	0	83.0
AMOCO CP	75.0	74.5	NORWAY	425.1	434.3
AMP INC	51.7	51.6	SPAIN	502.9	500.0
AMPCO PITT	0	14.6	SWEDEN	818.0	816.7
AMR CORP	40.1	40.1	SWITZ	152.6	153.2
AMR GEN CO	34.2	34.2	U.S.A.	535.6	534.9
AMR HESS	28.5	28.7	U.S.A.	247.7	242.6
ANTHEM ELE	11.1	11.0	WORLD	440.7	436.8
APACHE GP	8.3	8.3	E.A.F.E.	820.6	818.1
APACHE PET	3.7	3.7			
ARMCO INC	11.3	11.4			
ASARCO INC	21.6	21.6			
ASHLAND OIL	59.6	59.6			
ATLANTIC R	37.4	37.2			
ATV INC	22.7	23.0			
AVNET INC	27.3	27.2			
AVON PRODS	24.2	24.1			
BETH STEEL	20.4	20.4			
BEVERLY	7.0	7.0			
BK BOSTON	25.7	25.6			
BK BOSTN-A	0	47.4			
BK N-YORK	28.3	28.4			
BK TR-NY	35.0	35.0			
BANKAMER	8.6	8.6			
BANKAMER SPEC	6.5	6.5			
BOEING	47.4	47.4			
BOISE CASP	47.3	47.3			
BORDEN	55.3	55.3			
BORG-WARNE	0	45.5			
BONATER	33.4	33.1			
BR TELECOM	43.6	43.6			
BRISTOL-SIT	30.2	30.2			
BRIST-WYER	45.0	44.7			
BRUNSWICK	20.1	19.7			
BURNDY CP	14.2	14.2			
C 3 INC	12.0	12.0			
CABOT CORP	33.4	33.3			
CAESARS INC	24.4	24.5			
CANAL FRI	20.6	20.6			
CAS NAT G	14.2	14.2			
CAT PILLAR	65.0	65.0			
CBT INC	24.0	24.0			
CBT INC	169.5	170.2			
CENTEL CP	42.5	42.6			
CENTRO OAT	2.3	2.3			
CHAMP INTL	35.5	35.7			
CHAMP SWP	12.2	12.2			
CHARTER CO	4.7	4.7			
CHASE MANH	25.0	24.5			
CHENED CP	36.0	36.1			
CHENIC NY	25.0	24.7			
CHEVRON	44.0	44.3			
CHRISTLER	24.7	24.7			
CHUBB CORP	62.3	62.6			
CHUR FR CH	7.4	7.4			
CIGNA CORP	48.0	47.7			
CIN MILCAR	24.0	23.7			
CIR CIT ST	25.6	25.7			
CIRCLE K	12.7	12.6			
CITICORP	21.3	21.1			
CLARK EQUI	25.3	25.4			
CLOROX	30.4	30.2			
CMPSB RES	1.5	1.5			
CMPSB RES	29.1	29.0			
CNP PACIFIC	10.2	10.2			
COACHMEN	7.4	7.3			
COASTAL	29.2	29.2			
COCA COLA	37.6	37.3			
COLECO	3.0	3.0			
COLEMAN CO	35.3	35.1			
COLGATE	44.2	44.2			
COLT INDS	12.3	12.4			
COLUMB GAS	33.6	33.6			
COMM EDIS	29.1	29.0			
CONAGRA	25.7	26.1			
CONS ED-NY	45.1	45.3			
CONTINENTAL	39.7	39.7			
CONTEL ILLN	0.8	0.9			
CONTEL CP	33.5	33.6			
CONTR DATA	25.4	25.4			
COOPER T-R	33.3	33.3			
COOPER CO	12.0	11.7			
CORNING GL	58.0	58.0			
CRANE	27.6	27.6			
CRAY RES	83.4	83.7			
CULINET	5.7	6.0			
DANIEL IND	7.6	7.6			
DATA GEN	26.7	27.0			
DATAPoint	4.2	4.2			
DATON HUD	39.2	38.6			
DE EQUIP	125.4	125.0			
DEERE CO	43.2	43.2			
DELTA AIR	48.2	48.2			
DIAMOND SH	11.2	11.2			
DIEBOLD	45.5	45.4			
DISNEY W	61.4	61.3			
DOVER CORP	61.2	61.4			
DOM CHEM	86.0	86.2			
DOM JONES	33.6	33.4			
DRESSER	28.1	28.3			
DUFFUS	29.6	29.7			
DUKE POWER	46.3	46.2			
DUN BRAD	50.0	49.7			
DUPONT	87.1	86.6			
DUKESNE	13.3	13.3			
DYNAMICS	21.1	21.2			
E SYSTEMS	30.2	30.2			
EASTMAN K	43.4	43.2			
EATON CORP	76.7	76.6			
EMERY AIR	6.6	6.7			
ENHART CP	21.5	21.5			
ETWIL CP	23.1	23.0			
EXXON	42.4	42.5			
FAN DOL ST	11.2	11.2			
FED EXPRESS	45.2	45.0			
FIELDCREST	19.6	19.5			
FIN COR-AM	1.5	1.5			
FIRESTONE	45.2	44.6			
FMC CORP	29.7	30.1			
FORD MOTOR	44.7	45.1			
FORD HOMAR	40.0	40.0			
FOXBORO CO	24.6	24.6			
FRCHLD IND	9.4	9.5			
FST BANK	24.1	24.1			
FST BOSTON	24.2	24.1			
FST CHICAG	23.6	23.6			
FST CTU BK	*11	*11			
FST NAT BC	34.3	34.5			
GAF CORP	50.0	49.7			
GANNETT CO	36.6	37.0			
GALVESTON	1.5	1.5			
GATX CORP	45.2	45.0			
GATX CP	3.3	3.2			

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Commercial Bank **البنك التجاري**

Shares rally worldwide, dollar steady

LONDON, March 1, (Reuters): Shares gained around the world today as news that Wall Street had closed at its highest since the crash of 87 fuelled the optimism of investors.

The dollar was steady and gold recovered from 10-month lows touched on Monday. It was fixed in London at \$429.15 an ounce, after \$423.75 on Monday morning.

The spotlight was on stock markets when a rally of the past two weeks gained momentum after Wall Street's blue-chip barometer, the Dow Jones industrial average, rose 48.41 points on Monday to end at 2,017.62 — its best since the "Black Monday" October 19 shake-out.

Gained

Tuesday saw Tokyo's stock market, the biggest, resume an advance with brisk trade being done. Shares also gained in London, where the FTSE 100 rose 1.44 points to 2,454.71.

In London, however, although prices were marked up, the volume of business remained depressed — "volume is a worry. There's been little buying interest this morning," a senior trader said.

New York had been boosted by takeover news, an early bond market rally and dividend-related buying which triggered computer buy programmes in the last 30 minutes of trading.

"At this point, the momentum seems to be significant enough to create a good base and deflectionary disappointing news that may come our way," said market analyst Alan Ackerman of Gruntal and Co Inc in New York.

"This was an important psychological accomplishment, crossing the 2,051 mark."

During Asia's trading day, today Tokyo's stock market saw robust business with aggressive buying of stock in firms which stand to do well from a rise in domestic demand for goods.

The key Nikkei share index climbed 93.09 points, or 0.76 per cent, to 25,435.90 after losing 42.06 points on Monday.

Elsewhere in Asia, Sydney's All-Australian index rose sharply by 22.5 points, or 1.7 per cent, to 1,273.2 while Hong Kong's Hang Seng index rose 36.63 points at 2,454.71.

When the trading day opened in Europe, dealers marked up share prices in London, Frankfurt, Paris, Zurich and Amsterdam.

Buoyed
European dealers said their markets were buoyed by a steady dollar as well as the rise on Wall Street.

The dollar opened a shade firmer in London at about 1.6904 West German marks and 128.55 Japanese yen from closes yesterday, at 1.6880 marks and 128.30 yen.

London's FTSE 100 blue-chip shares started at 1,781 points after closing at 1,768.3 points on Monday.

The rise in London was despite news on Monday of a record British balance of payments deficit.

The fact that the Dow had

broken above the 2,050 level was cited as a main factor.

In Frankfurt dealers said they aimed to push West Germany's Faz 100-share index above strong resistance around 500 points. The index, calculated at the mid-session fix, rose 1.31 points to 456.82 on Monday.

"Sentiment remains bullish," said one Frankfurt dealer. He said shares were bound to continue to rise during the day.

"There is no end to the rally in sight," said another.

Optimism was also apparent on the Paris bourse with most dealers forecasting a bullish Paris market for the near-term.

At the start of the screen-based continuous trading session, the 50-share bourse indicator posted a 0.62 per cent rise.

In Zurich, the All-Share Swiss index was 10.3 points higher at 839 points while in Amsterdam, the All-Share Dutch index opened up 0.7 at 78.7 points. Italian shares were firm on the Milan exchange.

Weak spot oil prices are putting Opec under growing pressure to consider action to cut surplus production but market analysts said prospects of effective organisation measures look remote.

Oil ministers from Algeria and Ecuador have said the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries must cut output from current levels of around 17.0 to 17.5 million barrels per day (bpd) to balance supplies with weak demand.

Some other Opec ministers are thought to agree in private and to support Algeria and Ecuador's call for a meeting of the Opec committee that keeps watch on market prices.

But Indonesian Minister Subroto on Monday saw no need for a meeting as committee members can keep in touch by telephone.

The price committee — of the ministers of Saudi Arabia, Venezuela, Nigeria, Indonesia and Algeria — is empowered to call an emergency meeting of all 13 Opec nations if it feels the situation is sufficiently serious. The task of an emergency meeting would be to cut production to stabilise prices.

Process
But analysts said Opec is unlikely to begin a process which could lead to an emergency meeting, believing that markets would view it as a sign of weakness and an admission that events were passing out of its control.

"(Middle East) Gulf members want to avoid an emergency meeting," Irene Himona at London brokers Hoare Govett said.

It offered to buy its debt at 15 to 25 cents in the dollar. Otherwise, it said, banks should stretch out payments for 10 years with no interest.

The bankers said at least one bank was believed to be ready to accept a write-off, while others are still negotiating. The Baroom Company was unavailable for comment.

They also said a deal to reschedule 500 million riyals (\$130 million) of debt with Arabian Bulk Trade Ltd, based in the eastern province, was going smoothly, with payments made on time.

Surprised
The banks did not formally write off any of the debt, but bankers said privately they would be surprised if they eventually got back more than 60 cents in the dollar.

Another case involving the Arabian Auto Agency (AAA), was unresolved following the collapse of an eight-month-old rescheduling agreement late last year.

Some banks have already sold their debt at between 10 to 18 cents in the dollar, effectively writing off the remainder.

Bankers said Al Sayed Abdallah Mohammed Baroom, a diversified trading company based in Jeddah, began approaching foreign banks a month ago about 500 million riyals (\$80 million) of debt after two years of

silence.

Initial fears that local Islamic courts would overturn its decisions had not materialised and several appeals to religious courts had been rejected, they said. But some bankers remained sceptical about the committee's ability to enforce judgments demanding loan repayments.

They said most of the committee's cases involved relatively small debtors and they were dubious whether it would act against the bigger and better-connected debtors.

In view of their doubts, many bankers have tried to reschedule debts out-of-court but their deals have often entailed granting huge discounts on outstanding loans.

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Pressures mount on Opec as crude prices stay weak

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silence.

Echoing the views of several analysts, Himona said it was difficult to see what an emergency meeting could achieve.

The last full meeting in Vienna in December was widely seen as a failure. It only managed to agree to rollover last year's price and output pact — and Iraq refused to sign as it was not awarded an output quota equal to that of Gulf war foe Iran.

"The only thing is to cut output, but why have a meeting which won't manage to do it?" Himona said.

Yet free oil markets are close to their lowest since December 1986, and the falls in free market prices make it harder for Opec sellers to continue to charge Opec-mandated prices of \$18 a barrel or contract sales.

After firming briefly on Monday, the price of North Sea Brent field crude oil, the main international price barometer, today fell below \$15 for April loading.

Overproduction
Opec is paying for overproduction in the second half of last year, analysts said. Last summer and autumn Opec output climbed up to 3.5 million bpd above its then production ceiling of 16.6 million. This helped take world stocks of oil to their highest for five years, the International Energy Agency (IEA) said.

Weak demand this year, caused in part by a mild winter, particularly in Europe, has meant stocks have not fallen as much as needed and large amounts remain available to depress prices.

Low demand, rather than Opec restraint, is now seen as the

reason behind a fall in Opec output in January, analysts said.

But "The January decline was 100 per cent involuntary (by Opec)," Himona said. "Buyers cut liftings." The fall in spot markets has taken prices as much as \$3.50 a barrel below Opec-mandated official selling prices, so buyers incur an immediate loss if they re-sell Opec oil onto spot markets.

Realising this, some Opec states have offered price discounts in a bid to maintain sales at quota levels but they are not available to all customers.

Japan, for instance, cut purchases from Saudi Arabia in half in January and February and may take little or none in March as the kingdom will not grant it the discounts it offers to US companies, industry sources in Tokyo said.

All eyes are now fixed on upcoming estimates for Opec's output in February. On Monday the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) said output in the first three weeks of February was no more than 17.5 million bpd. Spot markets firmed on the report.

Although there are differing views on how far February output has risen over January 16.7 million bpd, most market experts expect the trend to be higher.

Looking more closely at the indicators, the department said five of the nine components in January's index were negative, led by a rise in weekly claims for unemployment insurance, which averaged 351,000 per week in the month.

But most economists expect the business expansion, already the longest in US peacetime history, will continue in 1988 for a sixth successive year, albeit at a slower rate.

None of the phenomena that generally occur prior to a recession, notably a sharp rise in interest rates engineered by the Federal Reserve, are evident now, the economists note.

Foreign exchange reserves rise
PARIS, March 1 (Kuna): France's foreign exchange reserves rose by 9.8 billion francs (\$1.78 billion) at the end of January reaching 387.4 billion francs (\$70.43 billion), according to figures just released by the Economy and Finance Ministry.

Gold reserves were unchanged at 223.5 billion francs (\$40.63 billion), that in the European currency units (ECU) decreased by 3.4 billion francs from the end of December level to 60.9 billion (\$11.07 billion), while reserves in foreign currencies increased by 13.5 billion to 108.8 billion francs (\$19.78 billion).

An obligatory meeting shall be held on Tuesday 22.3.88 at 9.30 am in the Main Conference Hall.

All inquiries shall be submitted to the Director of Studies, Planning & Follow-up Office, MPW, before Saturday 19.3.88 to be studied.

Tender No. SP/21/87
Tender's internal No. 651/88
Concerned party: Ministry of Public Works

Requirements: Construction, completion, maintenance & operation of gardens project in Hadiah, Sabahiah and Fahahel (1-2)
Relevant fee: KD500

Initial guarantee: 5% of offers value
Closing date: 12.00 noon Tuesday 26.4.88

Qualified Tenderers:
1. Agriculture Development Co.
2. Arabi Co.

3. Green Fields Agriculture Co.
4. Arabi Co. Ltd.
5. Arabian Agriculture Co.
6. Bamour Inter. Trdg. & Cong. Co.

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Tender No. MA/952
Tender's internal No. 689/88
Concerned party: Kuwait National Petroleum Co.

Requirements: Civil maintenance works for Mina Abdulla Refinery Building.
Relevant fee: KD50
Initial guarantee: 2-1/2% of offers value
Closing date: 12.00 noon Sunday 24.4.88

An obligatory meeting shall be held on Wednesday 23.3.88 at 9.00 am in the Materials & Contracts Section, Mina Abdulla Refinery to visit the site and discuss the tender conditions.

Note: 1) The company representative shall not be allowed to attend the preliminary obligatory meeting if the bidder fails to notify KNPC with the names and designations of his nominees according to the safety and security conditions applied in refineries at least two days before the date of the said meeting.

Note: 2) Bidders offers shall not be considered if he fails to attend the above said preliminary obligatory meeting.

Qualified Tenderers:
1. Al Othman Trd. & Cong. Co.
2. Ali Al Sayegh Cong. Co.
3. Al Bayda Trd. Cong. Co.
4. Moh'd Abdul Mohsen Al-Khuraifi
5. Consolidated Contractors Co. (Conco)
6. Nayef Hamad Al Dabous & Sons Co.
7. Al Khuraifi Construction Cong. Co.
8. Al Ruwasani Construction Cong. Co.

(To be continued)

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Increase in world oil demand predicted

BAGHDAD, March 1, (Opecna): Dr Abdul Aziz Al Wattari, acting secretary general of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec), has predicted an increase in global demand for oil by early 1990s.

In a lecture delivered at the 11th course on basics in petroleum and gas industry here at the weekend, Al Wattari drew a comparison between the market situation in late 1970s and early 1980s.

He pointed out that oil consumption in the industrialised countries dropped from 41 million bpd in 1979 to 35 million in 1986, while their imports dropped from 27.60 million in 1979 to 17.40 million in 1986.

Arab oil revenues rose from \$13 billion in 1973 to \$93 billion in 1980, which substantially contributed to the boosting of national development plans, he remarked.

Al Wattari recalled that steps taken by oil producing countries in the early 1970s to free their oil resources from the grip of foreign monopolies had led to countermeasures by the industrialised oil importing countries, including consumption cuts and development of alternative sources of energy.

Situations Vacant

Urgently required to fill up the following vacancies in an internationally-known Exchange Company:

1. Clerk-cum-typist — Applicants of Sri Lankan nationality preferred.
2. Farash-cum-driver — Applicants must have Kuwaiti driving licence.

Notes

- A. For both positions applicants must have transferable residence and be able to appear for an interview at short notice.
- B. Application must bear a contact telephone number.
- C. Following papers must be attached:
 1. Copy of all educational & experience certificates.
 2. Photocopy of passport — relevant pages.
 3. 2 photographs — passport size.
 4. Copy of driving licence.

Applications should be sent to P.O. Box 7823, Fahaheel, 54009, Kuwait by March 7, 88.

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Apply with resume and recent photograph. The Personnel Manager, Zaid Al-Kazemi Sons Trading Co. P.O. Box 30 Safat, 13001 Safat, Kuwait.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, March 1, (Reuters): The market closed sharply higher with all sectors showing increases and turnover of 111.86 million shares. The All Ordinaries index rose 22.5 or 1.7 per cent to 1,273.2.

TOKYO: Shares closed higher in robust trade after aggressive buying of large capitalisation domestic issues. The Nikkei Average rose 93.09 points, 0.76 per cent, to 25,435.90.

HONG KONG: Prices closed near their high point for the day, with earlier profit-taking well absorbed. The Hang Seng index ended the day 36.63 points higher at 2,454.71.

SINGAPORE: The market closed on a mixed note with a lack of follow-through buying support and some profit-taking in lacklustre trade. The Straits Times industrial index rose 1.44 points to 890.28.

BOMBAY: Prices fell under widespread selling pressure as disappointment mounted over the national budget for fiscal 1988/89, presented on Monday and seen as belying hope of incentives to boost depressed stock markets.

NEW YORK: Stocks traded narrowly around yesterday's closing levels. The Dow down four at 2,068 in moderate early trading.

Poland keen to buy more oil from Kuwait

POLAND intends to step up imports from Kuwait in the near future especially in oil by-products, chairman of the Polish Chamber of Commerce Tados Zulkowsky told Kuna in an interview yesterday.

"In the past there were difficulties in our country for imports from countries including Kuwait but in the future we will be ready to buy more oil and oil products from Kuwait," he said shortly before heading back home concluding an official visit to the country.

Zulkowsky arrived here last Saturday leading a trade delegation and met with Finance Minister Jassem Mohammad Al Khorafi, Commerce and Industry Minister Faisal Al Khaled and the chairman of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry Abdul Aziz Al Saquer.

In his interview with Kuna,

Zulkowsky attributed the drop in his country's imports from Kuwait to Poland's indebtedness to the Western nations which dictated a drop in his country imports in favour of increased exports.

Exports
According to official statistics, Kuwaiti exports to Poland in 1975, 1976 and 1977 stood at KD 9.5, KD 12.7 and KD 16.7 million respectively but in 1978, 1979 the figures went down to KD 4.7 and 1.1 million and a few thousand dinars in 1980.

Compared to this, Kuwait's average imports from Poland during 1975-1980 stood around KD 6 million but in 1984 dropped to about KD4 million. This indicates that the balance of trade was in favour of Kuwait until 1977 before it reversed to Poland's favour.

Zulkowsky described his talks

with the Kuwaiti officials as highly positive covering avenues of promoting bilateral trade and joint projects in which Poland can have a share.

"I was pleased to have a very positive response from the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry president to find out what can be done on both sides to develop our bilateral trade relations," he told Kuna, adding "I have found a great deal of understanding to our mutual plan of developing our bilateral relations."

He said he has invited a chamber delegation to visit Poland and participate in the Polish trade fair marking the 60th anniversary of the Polish chamber and see the opportunities to export more Kuwaiti products other than oil.

In this connection he said Poland has a lot to offer in building pipelines, water drilling, road building and projects with highly skilled labour and engineers.

And in return Kuwaiti traders can get the opportunity to export more to Poland, he said, noting that Kuwaiti trading organisations are offering transit facilities or re-export of goods, an endeavour which he thought could be developed.

But Zulkowsky was optimistic that in the not too distant future, Poland could expand its imports from the Arab countries and the Gulf states when the burden of the \$9 billion debts on his country are completely or partially settled.

Presently Poland is not in a position to import from the Arab countries in view of the lack of hard currency to finance these imports "but when we are offered credit facilities we will do more business," he said.

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Scientific advances revolutionise police work

Hi-tech methods in the fight against crime

By Angus Day

SHERLOCK Holmes may sometimes have been wrong — sure, he had a quick brain and a magnifying glass, but most of all it was his instinct that solved those famous crimes.

Today, there is little room for hunches but much more chance of detectives getting their man. For the police have at their disposal a whole arsenal of scientific weapons — aids with space age names like micro spectrometer, genetic fingerprinting, laser microspectral analyser and the thermal imager.

The micro spectrometer is a super microscope that can pick up specks of hair, fibre and other material smaller than a pin head. It has helped to convict rapists and muggers by matching the tiniest fragment of fibre under a criminal's fingernails with those of a victim's clothing.

The laser microspectral analyser is now the main weapon against forgers. This device works with a laser beam burning a tiny part of the object being examined, then analysing the vapour given off.

It can quickly detect counterfeit notes, coins or other materials.

Wars often throw up useful peacetime aids, and this is the case with the thermal imager, which was developed during the Falklands conflict to detect tanks at night several miles away.

Now it will be put to end to those costly and time-consuming searches by police for bodies in woods, mountains and moorlands. Nicknamed the 'body hunter', the thermal

imager is used from a helicopter to scan large areas. Amazingly, it can pinpoint a body simply by detecting heat given off by it. It can even spot where a body has been buried by picking up the heat given off by disturbed earth.

The highly sensitive imager has a special lens that picks up the smallest variation in heat and it is shown on a TV screen inside the helicopter.

Laser beams are also helping to improve fingerprinting techniques. The beams can obtain a fuller picture of fingerprints already detected. The beams can locate portions of a print not visible to the naked eye or even a microscope.

Genetic fingerprinting, is without doubt, the modern technique which is set to be most widely used. A British man has already been convicted on the strength of evidence produced with the technique.

When it was discovered in 1966 by Dr Alex Jeffery at Leicester University it was hailed as 'the biggest advance in crime detection since the technique of fingerprinting was developed in 1901'.

Here's how it works: We all have a different cell structure. The odds against two people having the same bodily make-up are given as 30,000 million to one.

So from a drop of blood, a smear of semen, the tiniest piece of tissue or the merest wisp of hair, forensic scientists can positively identify a person.

The first man to be convicted of rape by the new technique was Nigel Davies, a 25-year-old labourer from Chester who was sent to jail for 10 years in December 1987 for raping a 66-year-old divorcee.

As well as criminal detection, the new technique obviously will have a big part to play in paternity disputes. The technique works on blood and semen stains that are many years old. And the cost of the tests involved is low.

Another invention is to use chemical fumes to locate fingerprints on virtually any surface, including human skin and leaves. Police say the technique

is most useful for picking up prints on pillowcases, plastic bags and leather suitcases.

Fumes are produced by soaking a pad with the same chemicals that are used to make superglue. The fumes react to the residue of skin sweat and throw up a white impression of the fingerprint.

Matching prints has also become far more efficient. There's a computer in the

United States that can compare a set of prints with five million others within five seconds. Unfortunately, it costs £3 million.

In fact, it's only the cost of these marvellous new crime detection aids that prevents their more widespread use.

One of the latest is a device to identify criminals by the sound of their voice. Every person's voice has a different pattern when displayed on a cathode ray screen.

A few months ago, a man involved in the looting of a Los Angeles shop agreed to be interviewed by a TV team provided that his face wasn't shown on the screen. As he sat with his back to the camera, the police were taking his 'voice prints'.

They arrested him on another charge, took his voice print again and convinced a jury that the two were identical. He was convicted and jailed.

As well as fingerprints, police forces around the country are putting dental records on computer.

For while people can lie through their teeth, their teeth can't lie. Taking extractions and fillings into consideration, the chances of two people having identical teeth are estimated at five billion to one.

It is not generally recognised that our skulls, too, are highly individual and are of great use in identification. Pathologists point out that the shape of our sinuses is as individual as fingerprints and they show up as shadows on X-rays plates.

As well as being such a help to the police in detecting crime, forensic scientists are sometimes able to prevent detectives getting red faces by



A laser microspectral analyser in action. A laser beam burns a tiny part of the object examined, then analyses the vapour given off.

discovering that, contrary to all indications, a crime actually hasn't been committed.

The classic case was in Henley-on-Thames, Berkshire, a few years ago when the landlord of a local pub handed in a bloodstained sports jacket. There was a large hole in the breast pocket surrounded by powder burns and the brown stains of a shotgun wound.

Convinced the jacket belonged to a murder victim, the police launched a full scale search, alerting hospitals, dragging ponds and letting tracker dogs loose.

Forensic scientists who were given the sports jacket quickly called a halt to all. They found the hole in the jacket had been made by the acid from a car battery which had reacted to the dye in the coat's material and turned brownish red.

A motorist had obviously worn the jacket while leaning over his battery to get to the car engine and then thrown the jacket away when he realised he had ruined it.



A fingerprint detected by a laser beam. The laser beam can detect portions of a fingerprint not observable under the microscope.

Computer 'virus' poses threat

CINCINNATI, Ohio, (AP): Computer "viruses" planted by saboteurs to attack computer memory files and functions can knock out computing systems and the vital operations they control for days, an expert says.

The "viruses" can multiply inside computer programmes, infect other programmes and be passed from one programme to another to wreak whatever havoc their creators desire, said University of Cincinnati computer specialist and researcher Fred Cohen.

Cohen said he is concerned that industries and utilities are not doing enough to protect computer systems against "virus" sabotage. Self-defence techniques can be built to alert computer users that their programmes have been invaded by a virus, but no flawless defence has been devised.

Cohen said. "I've done analyses on network that show probably in one month, I could spread a simple virus sufficiently far to bring down the majority of computers in the world for many hours," he said.

The telephone system is run by computers, the power grid is controlled by computers. "In other words, global collapse of our technological infrastructure is the worst case."

"No defence mechanism is perfect. Whatever technique is used, it's possible to get past it."

Cohen, who is an assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering, said he devised a computer "virus" in 1983 during a graduate seminar at the University of Southern California and demonstrated it under controlled conditions. He said the demonstration showed his test "virus" was able to take over a time-sharing computer system in as little as

five minutes. Harold Highland, editor of Computers and Security magazine, agrees that the problem is potentially serious. Highland said some officials in the computer industry refuse to recognise the potential risk because they are unsure of what to do to recommend.

Cohen said a viral attack is different from more conventional computer security problems, such as access by unauthorised people.

Officials at a university in occupied Jerusalem are worried that a virus planted by a saboteur could wipe out thousands of computer files dealing with student records, financial information, and other administrative information.

There have been reports of viruses attacking IBM computer systems in Tampa, Florida, which are linked to computers outside the United States, Cohen said.

Computer failed to predict worst UK storm

LONDON, (AP): Weather experts failed to forecast Britain's worst weather disaster in nearly 300 years because they stuck too rigidly to computer forecasts, says an official report.

The Oct 16 storm cut a deadly path across Britain, killing 17 people as winds gusting up to 120 mph (192 kph) toppled an estimated 15 million trees.

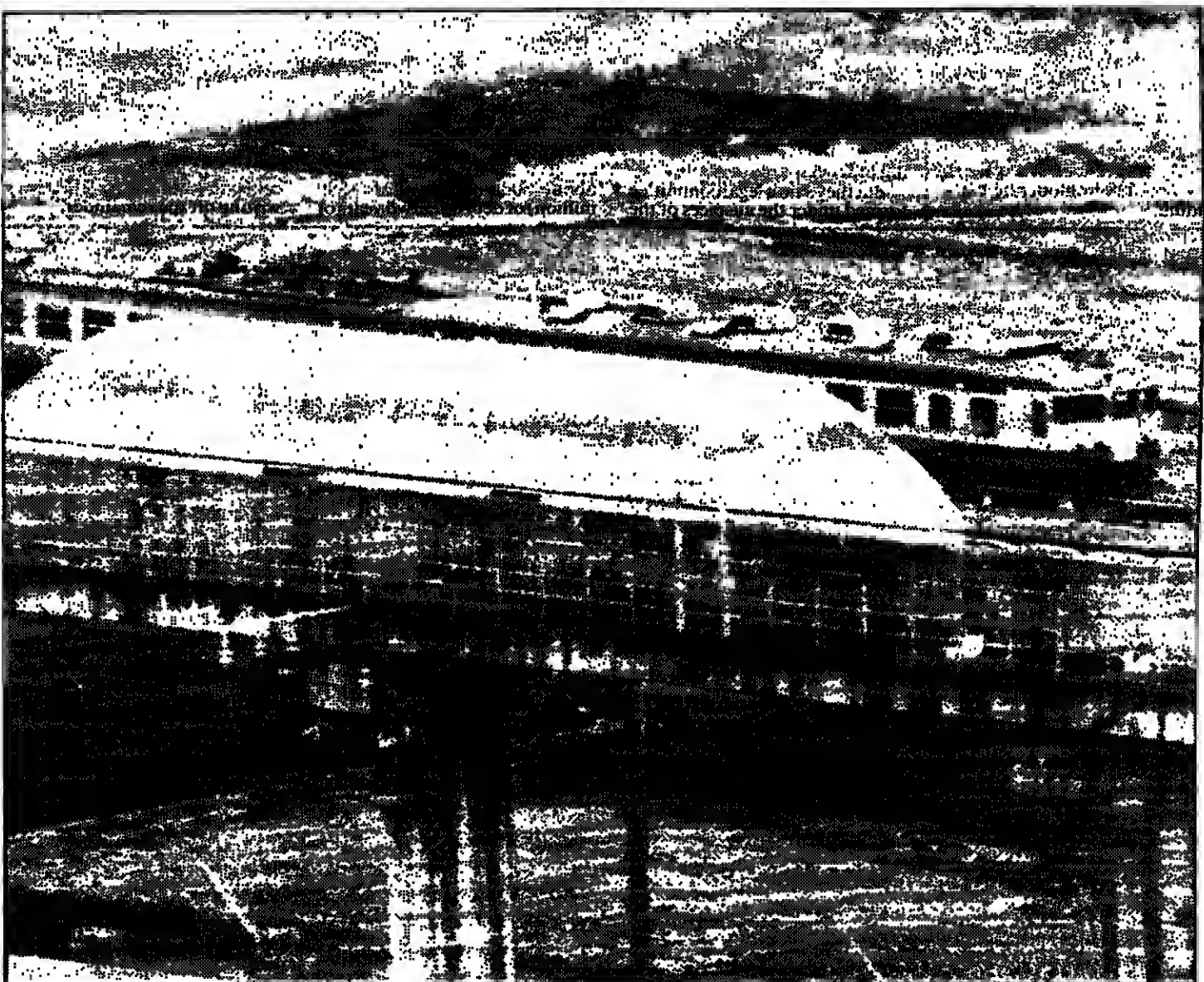
Homes were wrecked, cars smashed and many parts of Britain suffered the worst power failures since the World War II blitz. Insurance claims have totalled 835 million pounds (1.46 billion dollars), the largest payout for a single weather catastrophe, according to estimates by the Association of British Insurers.

The report to Defence Secretary George Younger was in two parts, one from the state-run meteorological office which the defence department controls and the other from an independent panel.

It said weathermen did not predict the storm's severity because they failed take into account other factors that might have shown their computer forecast was inaccurate.

No individuals were blamed, but the report recommended stepping up the warning system when bad weather is on the way, changes in the way information is gathered for forecasts and changes to the training of forecasters.

Japan's 'floating' train ready for debut



The fastest train in the world: Japan's linear motor car which will soon be put into service

By Eugene Moosa

KOKUBUNJI, Japan, (Reuters): After 26 years of research and tests, Japan is ready to put into service a revolutionary train which floats on magnets and travels as fast as some aircraft.

Known as the linear motor car, the train hovers on a track of power-fed magnets and can travel at up to 500 kms (300 miles) an hour, making it the fastest in the world. It has no contact with the track, no fuel-burning engine and no vibration.

The secret behind the linear motor super is a technique called superconductivity. A powerful electro-magnet is created when metals are cooled with liquid helium and then fed with a current.

The repelling force between the magnets — one in the train and a series on the tracks — float and push the train ahead. Hiroshi Takeda, chief researcher at the Railway Technical Research Institute, said the linear train would eventually replace overland domestic flights.

"Just think: if it only takes one hour for you to travel 500 kilometres (300 miles) without

wasting time for cumbersome check-ins, ground maintenance or baggage handling, this will drastically change the urban structure of any country."

Last month, the government approved initial funds for Japan's first commercial linear motor line of about 50 kms (30 miles). Transport Minister Shintaro Ishihara has said work on at least one line would begin within two years.

The line, the location of which is to be decided, would also serve as an advanced test track for other long-distance routes, Takeda said.

The introduction of the linear locomotive may help Japan regain the crown for the fastest passenger trains. Its Shinkansen bullet train, with a top speed of 240 kms (150 miles) an hour, was overtaken five years ago by the French TGV, which runs at 300 kms (190 miles) an hour.

Takeda, the project's chief engineer for Japan Rail, the privatised successor to the Japan National Railway, spoke of telescoped long distance trips: 40 minutes between New York and Washington, an hour between Los Angeles and San Francisco and London and Glasgow.

"The linear doesn't utter a sound and doesn't scatter

pollution. And because there is no contact, tracks are maintenance-free for about 10 years," he said at the institute outside Tokyo.

The magnetic attraction between the train and the tracks virtually rules out derailling. Transformer stations, which supply power to the magnets in the tracks, have absolute control over the trains and collisions are also unlikely, he added.

Fewer tunnels are necessary because the linear train can climb steeper gradients than conventional trains and "just go over hills" Takeda said.

Lighter The magnetic train is much lighter than other locomotives, which reduces drastically the cost of track construction, he added.

The cost, safety, speed and the train's overall impression inspired a group of members of parliament from the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, including former Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe, to lobby for the construction of an operational line.

City planners say the magnetic train will prevent congestion in Tokyo and solve domestic transport problems. It may also bring about other

changes. "The linear motor car will spark a revolution in city planning and division of roles between various regions," said Professor Shigemochi Ishii of Tokyo University.

Takeda's confidence stems from the tests his team and his predecessors at National Railway have been carrying out since 1962.

Japan's first linear motor car was floated in 1972. Five years later, an unmanned experimental car clocked up a record 517 kms (321 miles) an hour at the Miyazaki test track in southern Japan.

A manned model travelled at 400 kms (250 miles) an hour last year but the seven kms (four-mile) test track was too short to cope with higher speeds, Takeda said.

The first commercial line, to be operational in a few years, will provide an ideal test ground.

Outstanding technical problems include designs for a high-speed junction and how to deal with shock waves when trains running in opposite directions pass each other, Takeda said.

Earthquakes, snow and rain have posed no serious threat in the system.

Counterfeit counter

A MACHINE that can detect fake from genuine coin even though they look and weigh the same, has been perfected by a British firm.

The Titan 2408 can sort, validate, count, bag, batch and totalise 32 different coins of eight denominations of any currency whatever its shape or size — at the rate of two a second.

Computer-controlled, Titao sorts the good from the bad by electro-magnetically probing and displaying on a VDU screen the metal composition of the coins and rejecting duds into a separate container.



Coming face to face with crime



FACES — Facial Analysis Comparison and Elimination System is being given its first practical application in Blackburn, England.

THE victim of a crime, or any eyewitness, may be asked to look at hundreds, or even thousands, of photographs of known criminals on police files to identify the culprit.

Experience has shown that a witness's recollection becomes hurried and less reliable after having had to look at page after page of police records.

Now, after ten years of working with experts in psychological studies at Aberdeen University, Scotland, the Scientific Research and Development Branch of the British Home Office has devised a system which makes it five times more likely for a witness to identify the criminal correctly.

FACES — Facial Analysis Comparison and Elimination Systems — is being given its first practical application at Police Headquarters in Blackburn, in the north of England.

A witness's description of the physical characteristics of a criminal is fed into computer, which from a bank of up to 50,000 photographs sorts out of the twelve most closely fitting the description and displays them on a screen.

If no positive identification is made, a further dozen are screened, the witness's memory and the computer's memory bank working together to narrow the field.

The system is based on a DEC MicroVax 11 computer with a Matrix framestore and two data entry workstations. Each workstation consists of an RGB (Red/Green/Blue) high definition monitor and a VDU with a tablet and pen. The photographs of previous offenders are stored on a microfiche system and displayed on RGB monitors.

MARKETPLACE



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Check the classified pages of the **Arab Times** for used cars, boats, furniture and electronics. *The bargains will amaze you.*

پاکستان اور بھارت میں علی علیہ السلام کے حصول کے بارے میں

انہوں نے آپس میں کہا کہ ”اس کے لئے ایک الاؤ پیار کرو اور اسے دیکتی ہوئی آگ لے لو میری پھینک دو۔“
(سورہ ۱۱۱: ۱۰ - آیت ۱۲)



حضرت حارث بن وہبؓ سے روایت ہے
 میں نے بیان کیا کہ میں نے رسول اللہ صلی اللہ

یہ وہم سے سنا رہا ہے یا میں تم کو نہ
 ہوں کہ دوزخی کون ہیں؟ سرکش، بد خلق،
 تکبر قسم کے لوگ۔
 (بخاری و مسلم)

انشائیہ

میں لے اور ادارے سرکاری مطبعوں میں ان کی مکمل تعداد پورے میں پانچ ہے۔ پرائیویٹ پریس کوئی نہیں ہے۔ اول تو ان حالات میں کوئی شخص کچھ لکھنے

نہ احمد فیض پیدا ہو بھی جائے تو ازراہ قانون
سے حکومت کو عرضی دینی چاہئے کہ بندے کی
بف لطیف زیور طبع سے آراستہ کی جائے۔
شکوہ بجا کر (کسی کام میں جلدی نہیں کی

(۲) دیکھیں گے کہ ہاں کوئی مضائقہ نہیں تو
مٹے گا کہ اچھا چھاپے دیئے ہیں۔ کاغذ
بہت طباعت کے پیسے لاؤ اور جب چھپ
کے تو ہن جی چاہے، جیسے جی چاہے بچو۔
کاغذ کا کچھ کچھ

میں نے اسے دیکھا تھا۔ وہ ایک نوجوان تھا جس نے مجھے دیکھا تو میری طرف سے ہنس کر ہنس کر بھاگ گیا۔ میں نے اسے دیکھا تھا۔ وہ ایک نوجوان تھا جس نے مجھے دیکھا تو میری طرف سے ہنس کر ہنس کر بھاگ گیا۔

ابن انشاء کے سزنامے ”دنیا گول ہے“
(ماخوذ)

پچھلے دنوں میں خیال رہا ہے

و پھر سرے کان بج رہے ہیں
و پھر سناٹا گونجتا ہے
(اختر ہوشیار پوری)

کوتی دتار کے مقابلے میں غیر ملکی

درستیوں کی قیمت حسب ذیل رہی۔

۱۳-۳۹۰ (ایک ہزار) پانچ سو
۲۷۶-۷۰۰ (ایک ہزار) ڈالر
۴۹۰-۱۲۰ (ایک ہزار) پاؤنڈ
۷۳۴-۰۰۰ (ایک ہزار) ڈیٹر

۷۵-۳۵۰ (ایک ہزار) رات ورم
۷۳-۷۸۰ (ایک ہزار) ریال
۷۶-۱۰۰ (ایک ہزار) ریال
۷۱۸-۸۹۰ (ایک ہزار) ریال

۷۔ اکتھاجی اعلان ۰۱۔ ۷ تلاوت قرآن

۱۰۔ ۷ بہترین قتل ۱۶۔ ۷ پوز گرام کا
۱۱۔ ۷ گانے ۳۰۔ ۷ اخباروں کے
۱۲۔ ۷ صبح نو ۸۔ ۷ خبریں ۱۵۔ ۸
۱۳۔ ۷ ج کا انتخاب ۲۰۔ ۸ گانے ۳۵۔ ۸ عربی

الحجۃ ۳۰ - ۸ ہجری تہریانی ۰۰ - ۱۹ اعتساف

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Navratilova returns to Family Circle tournament

COLUMBIA, SC March 1. (AP) Martina Navratilova is coming back to the Family Circle Magazine Cup tennis tournament, tournament officials said yesterday.

After a four-year absence, Navratilova has committed to play in the \$300,000 tournament on April 4-10.

"We are extremely pleased to have Navratilova's commitment," tournament director Mike Stevens said. "Her dominance in women's tennis has certainly made her a top draw in the sport."

Navratilova, who is ranked second in the world, is the first player to commit to the 16th annual event, which is played on the clay courts of the Sea Pines Racquet Club on Hilton Head Island.

Navratilova won the tournament in 1982 by beating Andrea Jaeger 6-4, 6-2 and defended the title successfully the following year by defeating Tracy Austin 5-7, 6-1, 6-0.

Navratilova's commitment also has led to questions of when — or if — defending champion Steffi Graf or eight-time winner Chris Evert will join the 56-player field.

Ms King said neither Graf, ranked No. 1 in the world and winner of the tournament the past two seasons, nor Evert, who has said the event is one of her favorites, have said whether they will play.

She said players have up to about two weeks before the tournament to commit, adding that she expected more player commitments later this week.

Graf, of West Germany, beat Manuela Maleeva 6-2, 4-6, 6-3 to win last year's event. Two years ago, Graf beat Evert 4, 7-5 to capture the title.

Conner dead serious about defending America's Cup

NEW YORK, March 1. (AP) The question was supposed to be an ice-breaker from Dennis Conner, it drew a frosty smile.

"Is there any truth to the rumour that you're going to use the Miss Budweiser (a hydroplane) to defend the America's Cup?" that was the question.

No answer. Just a smile.

To Dennis Conner, defending the America's Cup is dead serious business. Especially when Darth Vader is trying to take it away.

Darth Vader — the villain in the "Star Wars" films — is what Conner calls Michael Fay, the New Zealand investment banker who went to court to force an early defence of the America's Cup Conner won back from Australia last year.

Not only did Fay upset the time-table of about four years between America's Cup defenses that has been in existence for 30 years, he is going to challenge with a yacht that is 90 feet (27.4 metres) at the water line. This is twice the length of the 12-metre (13.1 yard) yacht used traditionally in cup competition.

"This guy kicked us below the belt," said Conner, who lost the cup in 1983 when sailing for the New York Yacht Club, which had held the trophy since the Yacht America defeated 15 British boats in 1851.

"I'm a sailor. How do you deal with a guy who doesn't care if he wins in court or on the water?" Conner wondered.

If you're Dennis Conner you take on size with speed. Conner will sail a catamaran, which is a double-hulled boat, in the defence in September.

When Sail America Foundation, which is managing the Cup defence for the San Diego Yacht Club, was still deciding whether to build a catamaran, Charles Barthold, associate editor of yachting magazine, was quoted as saying if a multi-hulled boat was used: "I suspect you're going to see the biggest mismatch in America's Cup history."

Conner would love to pour oil on Fay's sour grapes.

Sour grapes, Conner says, is what led Fay to go to court to issue his challenge under a literal interpretation of the deed of gift rather than wait to participate in a multiple-national challenge in 1991.

Fay's 12-metre (13.1-yard) yacht and a 33-1 record in the round-robin challenger selection round at Fremantle, Australia, last year. The yacht, New Zealand, also won its semifinal, but then was beaten by Conner's boat in the challenge elimination finale.

"He counted his chickens, but ended up with sour grapes," Conner said.

Conner said that after he zaps Darth Vader, the San Diego Yacht Club plans to defend the America's Cup in 12-metre yacht competition in 1991.

Twenty-one yachts from 10 nations had planned to battle for the right to challenge for the cup in a best-of-seven finale in 1991 before Fay's surprise challenge.

POTTER ADVANCES IN KANSAS TENNIS

Graf eliminates MacGregor easily

SAN ANTONIO, Texas, March 1. (AP) Top-seeded Steffi Graf of West Germany easily glided to a first-round victory last night, defeating Cammy MacGregor of the United States 6-1, 6-2 at the US women's hardcourt championships.

Graf, the world's top-ranked women's singles player, needed only 49 minutes to eliminate her opponent before 1,500 people at McFarlin tennis centre.

Rusty
Graf used her powerful forehand and volley to best advantage in her first tournament match since winning the Australian Open in January. Graf admitted after the match that she was still rusty in competitive tennis because of the five week break.

She complained about her return of serve but said "my serve was really good today."

Although Graf played with a baseline strategy most of the time, her occasional attacks to the net were deadly. Graf ended the match with a passing shot after having been chased behind the baseline by MacGregor's lob.

The second- and third seeded players, Helena Sukova of Czechoslovakia and Lori McNeil of the United States, are scheduled to play their first-round matches today.

The nationally televised finals are scheduled to be played on Saturday in the \$200,000 tournament.

Meanwhile, in the opening day of the \$100,000 Kansas tennis tournament four seeds were cut down, one without taking a swing, before second-seeded American Barbara Potter scored a 6-0 6-4 triumph over South African Dinky Van Rensburg yesterday.

Withdrew
Seventh-seeded American Kathleen Horvath withdrew from the tournament with a bad case of the flu, but most of the healthy seeds who saw action did not fare much better.

A pair of Soviet players advanced with opening round wins over seeds.

Svetlana Parkhomenko, ranked 122, ousted eight seeds Claudia Porwik 6-4 6-2. Parkhomenko took away Porwik's big weapon as she easily handled the 19-year-old West German's booming serve.

Natalia Bykova, ranked a lowly 138 in the world, eliminated an erratic Diane Balestrat, the fourth-seeded Australian 7-6 6-1.

Potter, the defending champion, dominated the opening set.

But in the second set, the 12th-ranked American and Van Rensburg, a qualifier here, treated the crowd to the best tennis of the night.

Van Rensburg rallied from 0-2 down, taking three straight games before Potter regained her touch.

The big shot of the set was a perfectly placed lob deep into the corner which gave Potter a service break for a 4-3 lead.

"I think I have the more solid game. But I definitely think she praised the level of her game in the third game of the second set," Potter said.

Canadian remains unbeaten

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Alessandra Sensi of Italy stood in third on the strength of a second, third and fourth place finish in three races.

In the laser class, Italy's Paola Ferrario leads with only three lost points.

Americans Susan Taylor and teammate Cory Fischer are in first place in the 470-class with 8.7 lost points after three races.

Women from 16 countries are participating in the three-category championship, which continues until Friday at this resort town 180 kilometres east of Rio De Janeiro.

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The Soviets made many new friends with their personal touch of glasnost (openness) and won renewed respect by dominating the competition with a record 29 medals — 11 golds, nine silvers and nine bronzes in 46 events.

The Games began in a blizzard and closed on a cool, starry night after a balmy final day. Along the way it seemed as if four seasons passed, swept along by the crazy chinook winds.

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The athletes enjoyed the camaraderie in the Olympic village with its disco, movie theatre and video arcade.

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Hodler said if there are many athletes competing the problem is that it takes time but it won't affect the better athletes for they start first.

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Samaranch said no to a question whether some indoor sports like basketball would be included in the Winter Games.

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"Only one hockey player was disqualified. There was only one fight during the 42 hockey games played," he added.

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Krishnan upset by teenager

INDIAN WELLS, California, March 1. (AP) Amateur Pete Sampras, a US high school student, upset 37th-ranked Ramesh Krishnan of India 6-3 3-6 7-6 yesterday in the first round of the \$702,500 Champions Cup tennis tournament.

In other upsets, Mark Woodforde of Australia defeated 14th-seeded Peter Lundgren of Sweden 7-6, 6-3 and Aaron Krickstein of the United States beat No 16 Jimmy Arias 6-3, 7-5.

Top seeds

Today, Boris Becker of West Germany and Pat Cash of Australia, seeded third and fourth, will see their first play. The top two seeds, Sweden's Stefan Edberg and Czechoslovakia's Miloslav Mecir, will play tomorrow.

Interesting

Krishnan, 26, had four match points against the 16-year-old Sampras in the third-set tiebreaker. But Sampras took the final three points to capture the tiebreaker 11-9 and win the match.

Sampras, who said his previous highest match was a six-hour marathon at a junior tournament, which he lost, earned a

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Pernfors: stops Skoff

shot at 10th-seeded Eliot Teltscher. Teltscher defeated Jonathan Canter 6-3, 6-1.

"It's going to be an interesting match," Sampras said. "I'm

going to have to get a lot of first serves in.

"I'm glad I had a chance to make the main draw," added Sampras, who is playing in only his second Nahisco Grand Prix event. "I didn't expect to do this well. But I've been here for a few days. And playing in the qualifying I felt confident on this court. It worked to my advantage."

In another standout match, 11th-seeded Amos Mandorff needed nearly three hours to down 16-year-old Michael Chang of the United States, 2-6, 7-5, 7-6. Chang, who turned professional in January, lost the third-set tiebreaker 8-6.

"Mandorff just kept hitting the ball deep and staying back," Chang said. "It got to the point where I was cramping up. I physically need more conditioning. I had my chances in the second and third set. I've got to learn not to be tentative. This game has no room for defensive players."

Other matches
In other matches involving seeded players, ninth-seeded David Pate defeated Luiz Mattar of Brazil, 6-2, 6-7, 6-2. No. 12 Eduardo Bengoechea of Argentina beat fellow countryman Javier Frana 6-2, 3-6, 7-6, and No. 15 Mikael Pernfors of Sweden stopped Horst Skoff of Austria 7-5, 6-1.

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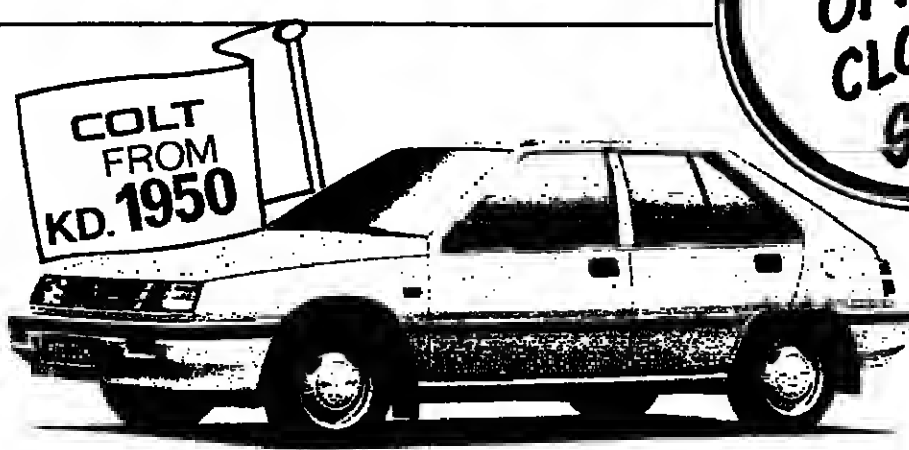
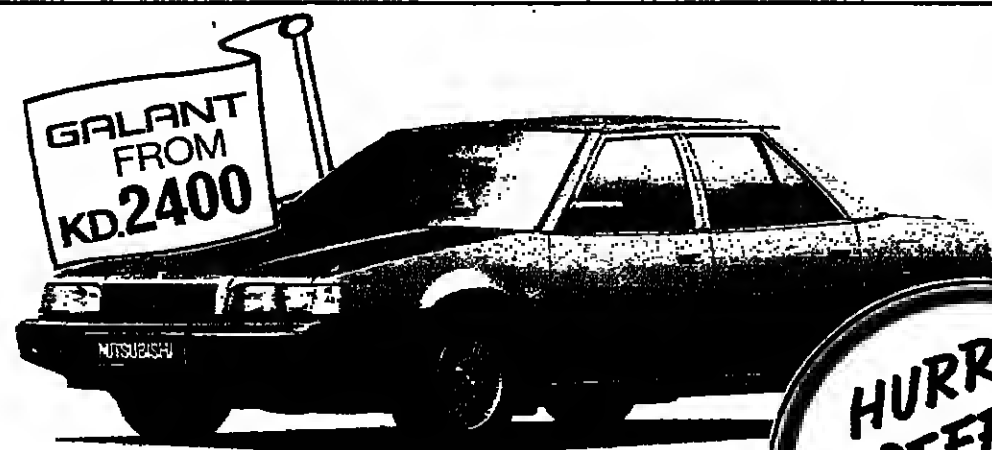
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SPORTS

KUWAIT INTERNATIONAL RALLY TO BE HELD ON MARCH 17 AND 18

Bin Sulayem looking for another win

By Gail Seery

REIGNING Middle East Champion Mohammed Bin Sulayem is looking forward to his next rally — in Kuwait on March 17 and 18. Sulayem won the event in 1985, but finished a frustrating 27 seconds behind Qatari rival Saeed Al Hajri in last year's rally.

On that occasion he had severely damaged his steering on the first half of the second leg, while leading, and even though it was rebuilt at the service area at Entertainment City, the Toyota had lost the precision necessary to tackle the stages at high speed, and Sulayem injured his wrist in his efforts to control the car.

Fought back
Sulayem recently took his first ever victory in Qatar, despite problems early on the second day. He fought back, and when Al Hajri, who was leading the rally, suffered a puncture just a few stages before the end, Sulayem was in an ideal position to capitalise on his rival's delay. "I was very pleased to win there," he told the Arab Times. "I did all I could to win and gave a good performance."

More recently, in the Masafi Rally, Dubai's endurance-type 4WD event, he suffered severe electrical problems which forced his Marlboro Range Rover not to start. "I was in a bit of a predicament, but I tried to win this time. However, you can't win every rally and we did our best," he said philosophically.

Now Sulayem is looking towards the Kuwait event, and will be arriving in a week's time to start his pre-rally practice. "I want a good run," he said. "We will be aiming for a good finish. However, winning is



Picture shows from L-R: Al Wazzan, Bin Sulayem and Eld Falah. All three are hoping for victory in Kuwait.

individual rally matters to me less than winning the championship."

A win in Kuwait will give him an early lead in this year's series. Sulayem knows however that Al Hajri was in the lead in the 1987 Championship after last year's Kuwait International, and that the situation changed very rapidly.

Bad luck
Al Hajri won last year's Kuwait International, but has not won a Middle East Championship round since then. This has been caused by apparent bad luck rather than any specific failure on the Qatari's part, and he will be driving in the Kuwait event with the firm intention of taking a victory.

Al Hajri entered a new car in Qatar, following the retirement of the familiar blue and white Porsche 911SCRS. The

replacement is a Rothmans backed Audi Quattro, with David Sutton taking over from Dave Richards as team manager. Although the Quattro has immediately obvious advantages — it has 4WD drive and is more powerful than the Porsche, it has not had good results in the Middle East. Al Hajri and team will be not to prove that the bad luck is behind them, taking a good win here.

Other overseas drivers who will be joining the fight are Lebanese champion Michel Saleh, assuming that he settles a few administrative problems with KTMSD in the meantime, and Abbas Al Musawi, another Qatari driver who seems to have been plagued by bad luck.

Aiming
On the local front, Ahmed Al Hilal, the reigning national champion, who recently returned

from Masafi, will be driving his Rothmans backed Group A Toyota Corolla, and will be aiming to be the first local entrant home. This will give him a boost in points, not only in the National Championship, but also in the Group A section of the Middle East Championship.

Ahmed Al Hilal and navigator Fahad Al Rashid unfortunately were unable to complete the Masafi Rally due to engine failure in their Mitsubishi Pajero. "We were doing well," Al Hilal said, but he complained that the rally hosts did not respect his experience. They gave me 31 as my start number. They didn't seem to know that I had experience in the Pharoahs Rally as well as in the recent jeep rallies." Al Hilal complained and was raised to 24. He had found himself blocked by the cars ahead when he was much slower

and yet didn't move aside to let him pass. "The rally is not difficult. It's like any other rally. They make it difficult by their seeding method."

Al Hilal is already leading this year's National Championship by 5 points, having won the first round on January 15.

Second in the January competition was Tareq Al Wazzan, backed by Marlboro and driving an AAA Garage prepared Range Rover. He also intends to enter the Range Rover for the international and has already begun his practice, with his co-driver Khaled Khalifa. Either Wazzan or Hilal is a likely contender to be first Kuwait entrant home.

Eid Falah, who was recently given a badge deal by Marlboro following the close tussle between him and Hilal which developed in the Kuwait BP jeep rally, also intends to enter a Range Rover for the event, sponsored by Al Zayani, and can be expected to achieve a good finish position. The Range Rovers will be less fast than conventional rally cars, but will gain in terms of strength. Certain areas of the first leg of the rally are rough, and here the 4WD vehicles will come into their own.

Choice
Another man with a choice of vehicles for this rally is Marlboro Desert Challenge winner Tareq Alyan. He could enter either the Rocky in which he won his title, or else the Daihatsu Charade which Al Hilal drove last year.

This is the ninth international rally Kuwait has hosted, and will cover a total distance of 627.40 km, including 233.92 km of special stages. Only one Kuwaiti team, Ahmed Al Zafiri and Sadeq Ashkanani have ever won the event, which is traditionally fast but rough and humpy.

Nomads' triple triumph

KUWAIT Nomads set the scene for a wonderful climax to the season in Fintas next Friday after beating Bahrain 9-3 in the Gulf Cup semifinal on the island at the weekend. As the game counted for the Gulf Merit Table as well as the Nomads' 2nd XV beat an Invitation XV 25-10, it was a triple triumph for the Kuwait club.

Now the Nomads entertain Dubai Exiles in the 1st XV Cup final and Bahrain in the 2nd XV competition, both matches to be played on Friday at Fintas Park.

Warned
The 1st XV kicked off against Bahrain in hot but windy conditions, desperate to win their first ever Gulf Cup match, and maintain their interest in the Merit Table title. Though the Nomads' captain, Steve Hill, had warned against complacency, it was Bahrain who took the upper hand early on, particularly in the tight, where the Nomads were expected to dominate. The gusting wind was making good handling difficult, but Bahrain had clearly decided that their only chance of victory would come from getting the ball wide and away from the Nomads' mangle pack. This adventurous style would probably have paid dividends against any other team, but the Nomads' mid-field tackling was superb and the pack were always on hand to tidy up

the loose ball. Bahrain went ahead with a penalty from fly half Kyle Tocher after a ruck infringement by the Nomads, but Tocher paid the price by pulling his hamstring in the process, and his effectiveness was severely reduced for the rest of the match.

Penalty
Graham Adams had a chance to level the scores soon afterwards, but could not get the necessary distance into the teeth of the goal. However, he did level the scores before the interval with a penalty which in the conditions was as good as any he's scored all season.

The Nomads were confident that with the conditions in their favour after the break, they would turn the screw and make the match safe. In the event, however, Bahrain continued to make life difficult for Kuwait and deny them the quality of possession to which they have become accustomed. It was left to Adams with two penalties, one late on, to seal the result and give the Nomads that important final place.

The Kuwait 2nd XV also struggled against the elements in the first half of their match against an Invitation side comprising Bahrain, Sharjah and Kuwait players. The Invitation XV got two first half tries, one under the posts which was converted, and went into the interval 10-0 ahead.

The second half was a different story, as once the Nomads had adjusted to the change of ends they put together a fine performance, which kept the loyal band of supporters well entertained. Bahrain & Co. were forced to concede a succession of penalties and when Jones took one quickly, Gerry Young was on hand to take the ball over for a try, which Jones converted.

Then as the Nomads put up a high kick, Geoff Bennett and John Sanderson pressured the full back into an error and Sanderson beat the cover to the touchdown. Jones converted to put the Nomads 12-0 up, and then scored home a penalty to make it 15-10. He followed that with a try after magnificent work by the pack to gain good second phase ball, which he also converted to put the Nomads out of sight at 21-10. The pack were finally rewarded for their efforts when Butterfly went over in the last move of the match, to give Kuwait a well deserved 25-10 victory.

The win was earned in typical Nomads fashion with a no nonsense display of controlled forward play, and though it may be considered unfair to single out an individual for praise, Young's contribution in only his second full game was outstanding.

Chairman's Eleven win

A GLORIOUS unbeaten 79 by Yonus Chaudhry which earned him the Man of the Match award and enabled Chairman's Eleven defeat President's eleven by 23 runs in the festival challenge match at Sabah Al Salem area (N.C.) ground at the weekend. The match is always organised on February 25 by KCL in connection with Kuwait's National Day celebrations.

President's Eleven won the toss and asked Chairman's Eleven to bat first. The innings was opened by Khullar and Qureshi on a cautious note as only nine runs were scored off the first five overs. When Qureshi was bowled by Gupta for one, Yonus Chaudhry joined Khullar. Khullar left at 54 after being bowled by Iqbal for 26. Next batsman Ashraf Kamal was smartly stumped by Ganju off Nicholson for 18.

Yonus Chaudhry reached his individual half century with a square-cut for four before Tahir Khan was bowled by Iqbal for 18. When Yonus reached 79, he got himself retired in order to give his players a chance to bat. Six hits to the boundary were his principal strokes. Salim Pervaz (16), Arun (4) and Akhter Alam, brother of Pakistan's ex-captain Imtiaz Alam (4) were all made to retire.

Rajpal (23) was the other main contributor to Chairman's Eleven's total of 210 runs scored in 45 overs. Iqbal Zaidi and Joshi

were at the wicket when the time was called by the umpires.

For President's Eleven, Itat Hussain (two for 18) was the most successful bowler while Gupta, Nicholson, Sajid Rizvi and Mushtaq Malik all chipped in with one scalp each.

Chaudhry Javid and Ehsan ullah Sheikh gave President Eleven a courageous start by putting on 19 runs in only four overs before the former was bowled by Salim Pervaz for 12. Next batsman Ganju hit four nicely timed boundaries before being bowled by Joshi for 24.

After his departure at 58, the wickets kept on falling at regular intervals and President's Eleven could muster only 187 runs in 45 overs with their last pair of Raman and Sajid Rizvi at the wicket. Only skipper Ehsan ullah Sheikh showed the right temperament to face Chairman's Eleven bowlers with confidence. Taking full advantage of fielding lapses he scored 53 runs before giving a return catch to Tahir Khan.

At the end of the match, the chief guest GS Bawa distributed prizes among all players and congratulated Chairman's Eleven skipper Farvesh Kumar Merwah for winning the match twice in succession. Special prizes were awarded to Yonus Chaudhry, Ehsan ullah Sheikh and Salim Pervaz for being the Man of the Match, best batsman and best bowler respectively.

Mexican wins WBC super bantamweight title

Zaragoza stops Zarate in 10th round

INGLEWOOD, California, March 1. (AP) Daniel Zaragoza of Mexico City won the vacant World Boxing Council super bantamweight title last night by stopping Carlos Zarate of Tepito, Mexico, in the 10th round of their scheduled 12-round fight.

Zarate, 36, a former WBC bantamweight champion, retired in 1979 after losing his crown to Lupe Pintor, but resumed his career two years ago.

Contender
Zaragoza, 29, was the No. 1 contender for the vacant title, while Zarate was ranked No. 2.

In a companion fight, Azumah Nelson of Accra, Ghana, won a split, 12-round decision over Azahache Martinez of Guadalajara, Mexico, to claim the vacant WBC super featherweight championship.

Zaragoza won the first two rounds of the super bantamweight bout. The left-hander seemed to confuse Zarate, who had trouble landing solid punches.

Zaragoza, at 121-3/4 pounds (55.2 kg), continued to build his lead, but had one point deducted

for a low blow in the seventh round. Zarate, at 121-1/2 pounds (55.1 kg), also had one point deducted for hitting after the bell.

In the ninth, Zarate was hurt by body punches and right and left combinations to the head, and was wobbling at the end of the round.

Zaragoza continued his attack with combinations and body punches in the 10th, and referee Vince Delgado stopped it at 2:54. Zaragoza improved his record to 33-4. Zarate fell to 59-4.

Aggressive

"I was expecting Carlos to be more aggressive than he was and not to give me any room to box in," Zaragoza said. "My manager told me to box, box box. And the boxing built up a lead which made it easier for me in the later rounds. Carlos seemed to lose his concentration in the ninth round."

Zarate had gone 12-1 in his comeback leading up to yesterday's fight. His only loss came to Jeff Fenech in a WBC super bantamweight title bout in Australia last year. Fenech was moved up to the featherweight division, leaving the super bantamweight

title vacant. In the super featherweight fight, Nelson, 129-1/2 pounds (58.7 kg), started slowly but won most of the middle rounds from Martinez 129 (58.5 kg).

In the later rounds, Nelson became stronger, except for the 10th round, when he was pressing Martinez and ran into a solid left hook and took the mandatory eight-count from referee Randy Jordan.

That was the only knockdown, and Nelson went on to win the 11th and 12th rounds.

Scored

Judges Rudy Ortega and Terry Smith scored the bout 115-113 for Nelson. Marty Sammon had it 114-113 for Martinez. Nelson, 28, who relinquished his WBC featherweight crown to go for the super featherweight title, improved to 27-1. Martinez fell to 46-4-2.

"I felt comfortable moving and jabbing and boxing Martinez, and I didn't think the scores were that close," Nelson said.

The title was left available when Julio Cesar Chavez moved up in weight.

Unity clinch hockey championship

THE Unity hockey club defeated the Flying Arrows hockey club by a narrow margin of 2-1 in the final of the Eleven Brothers Hockey Championship on Friday. Both the teams were equally balanced in their encounters.

The first half of the match was goalless.

In the second half of the match Liaquat of Unity scored after dribbling through the defence line of the Arrows. But soon after Martin scored an equalising goal for the Flying Arrows.

In the last moments of the game Nasir of Unity scored to give his side a victory.

Ashraf Shad the editor-in-charge of Urdu Section of Arab Times and M. D. Khan gave away the trophies to winners and losers.



Ashraf Shad presents the trophy to the Unity captain as other players and officials look on.

Haider leads WGP to victory

GHULAM Haider led Western Geo-Physical XI from front-rank in its two wickets victory over ICC Company XI in a festival cricket match at Airport-Hijra ground on Friday.

ICC's captain Riffat Khan won the toss and opted to bat but his decision suffered an early setback when Azam was run out by an excellent throw from Zahid Butt in the first over.

Caught
Next man in was Amin who hit a quick 43, including five boundaries, before being caught by Javed Masood off Asad Baig.

Aslam Pervaz was top scorer for ICC as he entertained the crowd with three huge sixes and two fours in reaching his 61. Iqbal 32 and Riffat Khan 24 were the other batsmen to be among the run scorers. ICC were all out in the last over with the total of 232 runs. Anjum with three wickets for four runs was the most successful bowler for WGP XI. Asad Baig and Razzak got two wickets each.

Glulam Haider although



Ghulam Haider receiving the trophy from Adil Hussain Al Essa

wicketless gave just 19 runs in five overs. Needing 5.83 per over WGP XI lost four wickets for just 80 runs but then skipper Ghulam Haider and Asad Baig added 46 runs when the latter was caught by Aqueel Ashraf off Riffat Khan. Javed Masood with 24 runs helped Ghulam Haider add 70 for the sixth wicket. Ghulam Haider, the most cheered cricketer on the day was leg before to his counterpart Riffat Khan for well-made 70 runs. His Man of the Match award winning

innings had a six and four boundaries. **Not out**
Rashid Ansari 24 not out saw WGP XI reaching the required target with ten balls to spare. For ICC XI Riffat Khan bowled well taking three wickets as Tahir and Shahid Butt took two each. Aqueel Ashraf chipped in with a wicket. Adil Hussain Al Essa and Adrian Cranston gave away the prizes. The match was umpired by Sarfraz Iqbal and Tarique Basbir.

European Cup quarterfinal clashes today

Bayern Munich will try to succeed where Porto failed

MUNICH, West Germany, March 1. (Reuters) Bayern Munich will attempt to succeed where Italian champions Napoli and holders Porto of Portugal failed earlier this season when they meet Real Madrid in the outstanding European Cup quarterfinal tie here tomorrow.

But the West German champions, who knocked the Spaniards out after a bad-tempered semifinal marred by second-leg crowd trouble in Madrid last season, will need to overcome both a packed defence and heavy snowfalls to secure a commanding first-leg lead.

Eager
Real, six points clear at the top of the Spanish First Division, will be eager to avenge that defeat, but the West Germans vastly-experienced international midfielder Lothar Matthaus is confident Bayern can repeat their success.

"Our chances are no worse than last year as both sides don't seem to have changed much in terms of players or strengths," he said. "I will be happy with a 2-0 win at home. The main thing will be to avoid letting in any goals."

Bayern, however, may need all the acrobatics of Belgian goalkeeper Jean-Marie Pfaff to ensure

victory by shunting out Real's ever-dangerous striking partnership of Spanish international Emilio Butraguen and Mexican Hugo Sanchez.

Butraguen showed he was in good form last weekend with a brilliant solo goal in Madrid's 1-1 draw at Seville while Sanchez remains Spain's leading goalscorer with 21 goals this season.

Ready
Madrid began the season with swaggering authority and seemed ready to emulate the ghosts of their great European sides of the past, but they have since lost their consistency and were recently bundled out of the Spanish Cup by Real Sociedad.

Bayern Munich, by contrast, returned to their best after the Bundesliga's two-month winter break by thrashing bottom-placed FC Hamburg 6-0 on Saturday. The win lifted them up to second.

Coach Jupp Heynckes dropped striker Michael Rummenigge at the weekend, but is expected to recall him against Madrid. "I wanted to get him geared up," said Heynckes.

Heynckes may use three strikers — Welsh international Mark Hughes, Roland Wohlfarth and Ludwig Kogel — to seek the

goals needed as ample protection for the return in Madrid.

Bayern spokesman Marcus Herbig said the ground staff were coping with the heavy snowfalls. "There is no danger of the game being called off," he said. The match is a sell-out despite being televised live.

Recover
In Bordeaux, France, Bordeaux will need to recover the form which carried them in the French First Division title last season when they meet relentless PSV Eindhoven in the European Cup tomorrow.

Powered from midfield by experienced Danish international midfielder Soren Lerby, the Dutch champions have set a blistering pace at the top of the Dutch First Division and have dropped only three points in a 23-match unbeaten start to the League season.

But Bordeaux's players have developed a special appetite for European competition in recent years — they reached the semifinals of the Cup Winners' Cup last season and the Champions' Cup semifinals in 1985 — and French coach Rene Jaquet believes this could help raise their game for the occasion.

After travelling to Amsterdam

to see PSV beat Ajax 1-0 recently, he remarked that PSV's calmness and confidence were "terrifying."

Bordeaux have no serious injury problems, but French international forward Jose Touré, who came off with a head injury during Saturday's goalless draw with Paris Saint Germain, may be restricted to a place on the substitutes' bench.

In Lisbon, Benfica will be seeking revenge and a further step towards emulating domestic rivals Porto when they meet Belgian champions Anderlecht here in a European Cup quarterfinal first leg tie tomorrow.

The Lisbon team, twice winners of the trophy in the 1960s, last came close to reviving the Halcyon days of their European glories five years ago when they were beaten by Anderlecht in the final of the UEFA Cup.

Resurgence
That defeat and Porto's triumphant success in the Champions' Cup final last May has given added purpose to Benfica's mid-season resurgence of form and revived European ambitions under coach Antonio Toni Oliveira.

With holders Porto already eliminated from the competition,

Benfica will have the undivided backing of all Portugal as well as a 100,000 crowd when they meet the vastly-experienced but struggling Belgian team.

The Belgian champions have failed to find their best form this season and last week's appointment to veteran former national manager Raymond Gnetals as coach appeared to have little immediate effect.

Anderlecht, with two Cup Winners' Cups and a UEFA trophy to their credit, are renowned European campaigners. Benfica are unlikely to be fooled by their poor domestic results.

Benfica, a distant second to Porto in the Portuguese First Division, began the season badly and have found the form which won them the title last season only since the mid-term appointment of Toni.

Powerful Swedish international striker Mats Magnusson, who struggled after joining Benfica from Malmö in September, has been one of the main reasons for the revival and is now the team's leading goalscorer.

His strength and aggression provide the ideal foil to the more delicate skills of fellow-striker Rui Aguas and star winger Antonio Pacheco.



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